


SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SEASON





You still have that old guitar, Sonny?

You kiddin'? This baby's my prized possession!

ha ha
Ya didn't think that way when you were little.

That's 'cuz I didn't know the awesome power of Rock yet, Unc!



Hey, Sal, ya gonna just stargaze all night
or are ya gonna have some fun?



Oh!
Sorry, I guess...
I got a little lost in thought...

Do tell.

It's just...
hard for me to believe it's really over.

Robotnik's gone,
Doomsday's been neutralized...

we can finally reclaim Mobotropolis...

I guess I'm just...
trying to wrap my head around it all.

Ditto.

Still...

It's real,
so what say we celebrate it while we can?

Hm. Good advice.


Don't think that means
you're excused from helping us clean up
when the party's over, though.

snap

Dam it!

hahahahahaha






Blasted Freedom Fighters...

I finally have my chance to run this city right,
and they have to go and ruin it!


SLAM

Still...

I'm sure they'll be here soon to pick up the pieces
my 'dearly' departed Uncle Julian left behind,
and when they do...

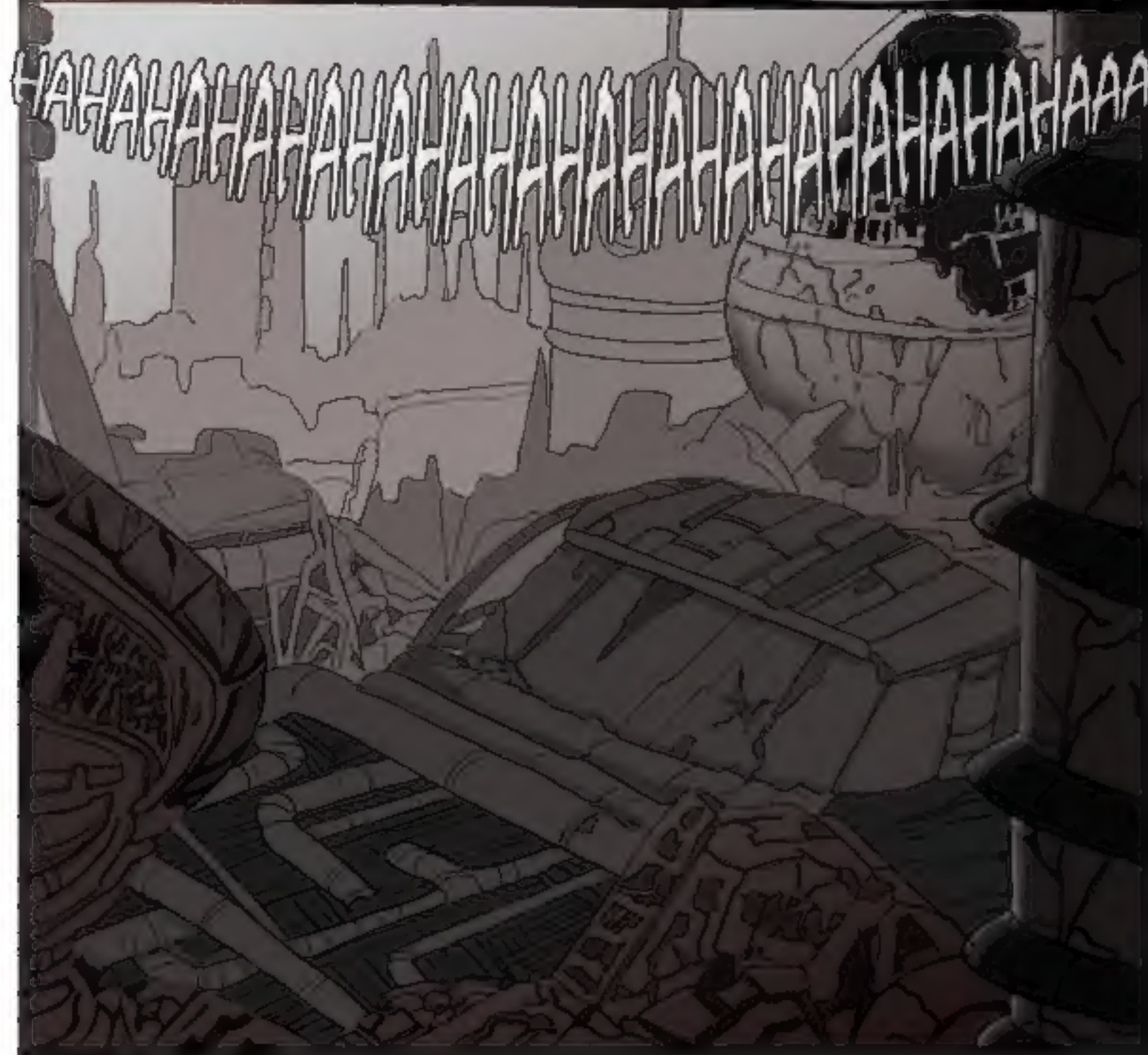


I'll have a little surprise waiting for them.



Just think...

we'll succeed where Julian never could,
and stamp out those vermin once and for all!



OK, people,
we've got a lot of work ahead of us now.

Fixing the mess Robotnik's stuck us with
won't be easy, but I know we can do it.

So what's the plan, Sal?

We start simple, Sonic.

You, me, and Bunnie will go into the city
to get a feel for its current condition.

In the mean time, Rotor,
I want you to work with Sir Charles
and start working on schematics for New Mobotropolis.

Can do, Sally.

And...what of me, my Princess?

You'll be sharing watch duty
with Tails for now, Antoine.
Robotnik may be gone, but his machines aren't,
and there's still a chance some of them
are operating on their original programming.

Good.

Then we'll make sure none of them
get anywhere near Knothole!

That's all for now, so let's get moving!

You two ready to do it to it?

You bet, Sugah-'Hog.
Though I gotta admit,
it's weird t' see this place so quiet...

I know what you mean.
It's like a ghost town...

Well, no use standin' around 'n' givin'
ourselves the willies.
Let's get movin'.

You got it, Sal.

Right. We'll split up, but keep in touch;
we don't know what dangers
are still lurkin' around the city.

Juice 'n' Jam time!





Man, I knew this place'd be cooler
with Robotnik gone,
but this's downright *creepy*...

BEEP

BEEP

Yo, Sonic here. What's up?



BEEP

BEEP



Um...what is it, Sal?



I can't describe it.
You have to see it for yourself.
Meet me at SWATBot factory X-19.

Sonic, head to the Factory District right away.
There's something here I need you to see.

OK, Sal, be there in a Sonic second!



SAL! WHERE ARE YA?

Crud...either Sal wandered off
while I was on the way, or this's a...

...trap.

clap clap clap clap clap clap

Hm hm...well done, pincushion!

Too bad you couldn't figure it out a bit...

faster

Ugh. Snifley
Shoulda known you'd step
up for ol' Uncle Tubby

Look, d'you mind?

I'm kinda busy here 'n' i don't
wanna stay in this dump too long.
so why don't you just call your Scrap Squad
off 'n spare us both the headache, huh?

'Cuz either way this'll end up the same.


Do not confuse me with Julian, rodent!
I'm not interested in playing games
or pulling punches.

Just getting results.

snap



Sal! Bunnie! You two OK?




I'm sorry, Sonic,
I tried to stop it, but the words just...
came out of me...


Wait, that was really you
on the communicator?



Pay attention to me, brat, if you want
your friends to end the day still alive



Yeah, yeah, keep your cool, Needle-nose!



Hmph! We'll see how cocky you are when you're in a Holding Cell
waiting for interrogation!

Later.

Dagnabbit, how'd we get into this mess?
When Sally signaled me t'the Factory.
I thought somethin' was a little fishy,
but we got hosed!

I'm sorry...
this is all my fault.

Don't go blamin' yourself, Sal.
that's not gonna get us anywhere

But I'm the reason you two
got caught!

If I'd been stronger...
If I'd focused more
I could've stopped myself.

Don't worry about it,
Sal. Snivley musta
drugged you or somethin'
when your back was turned.

Trust me. I know how
that little weasel likes to
mess with your head

There was nothing
you coulda done..

wish I could believe that, Sonic...
but I don't think it was a drug that
made me call you two..

PRIORITY ONE HEDGEHOG
MASTER ROBOTNIK IS READY
TO INTERROGATE YOU NOW

INCORRECT
MASTER ROBOTNIK IS READY
TO INTERROGATE YOU NOW,
PRIORITY ONE HEDGEHOG

Hmm

Robotnik?
Y'all mean Snivley.
don'tcha?

CLANK

Sonic!

Don't worry Sal. 'll be OK!
You two just figure out
a way t'get outta here.

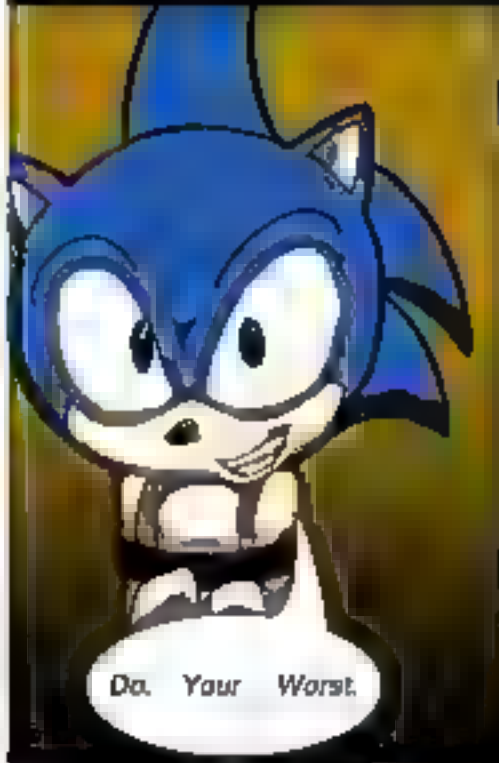
I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT, SAL!

SLAM



Hey there Sheriff!
What am I in for?

As I said before, hedgehog,
I've no patience for your witticisms
I want information,
and you're going to give it to me.



Do. Your Worst.



I intend to, and you'd best
be careful what you wish for

My "worst" makes Julian look like
a picnic on a sunny day!



You see, if I wanted, I could
torture your friends instead of you
but then you might lie.

So instead,
I'll use something a bit more surefire





Naugus...

Ah, so you remember me,
eh, Quickster?

Hm hm hm...

good.

So that's how you got Sai
to lure me 'n' Bunnie into a trap!

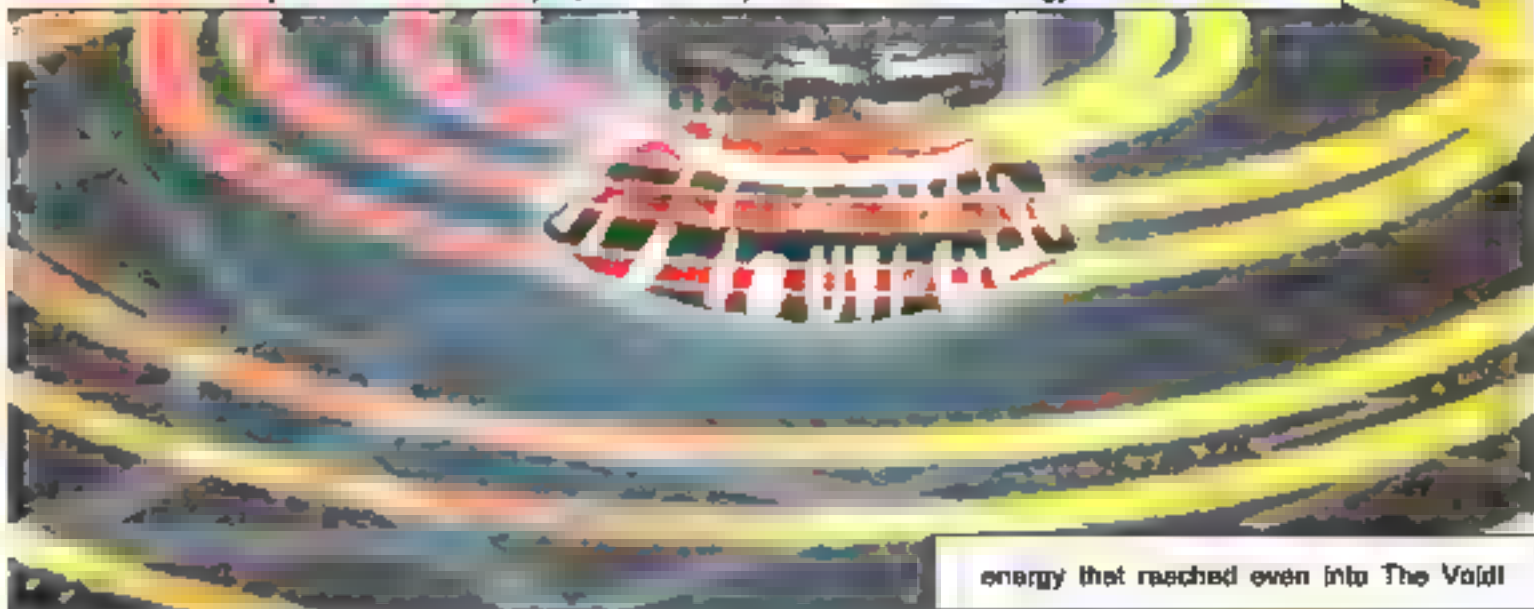
My powers of persuasion are as strong
here as they are in The Void, Quickster

But I don't get it.
You CAN'T leave The Void,
not without turnin' to crystal!

Cerberus McHornhead used his magic
to make her do it!

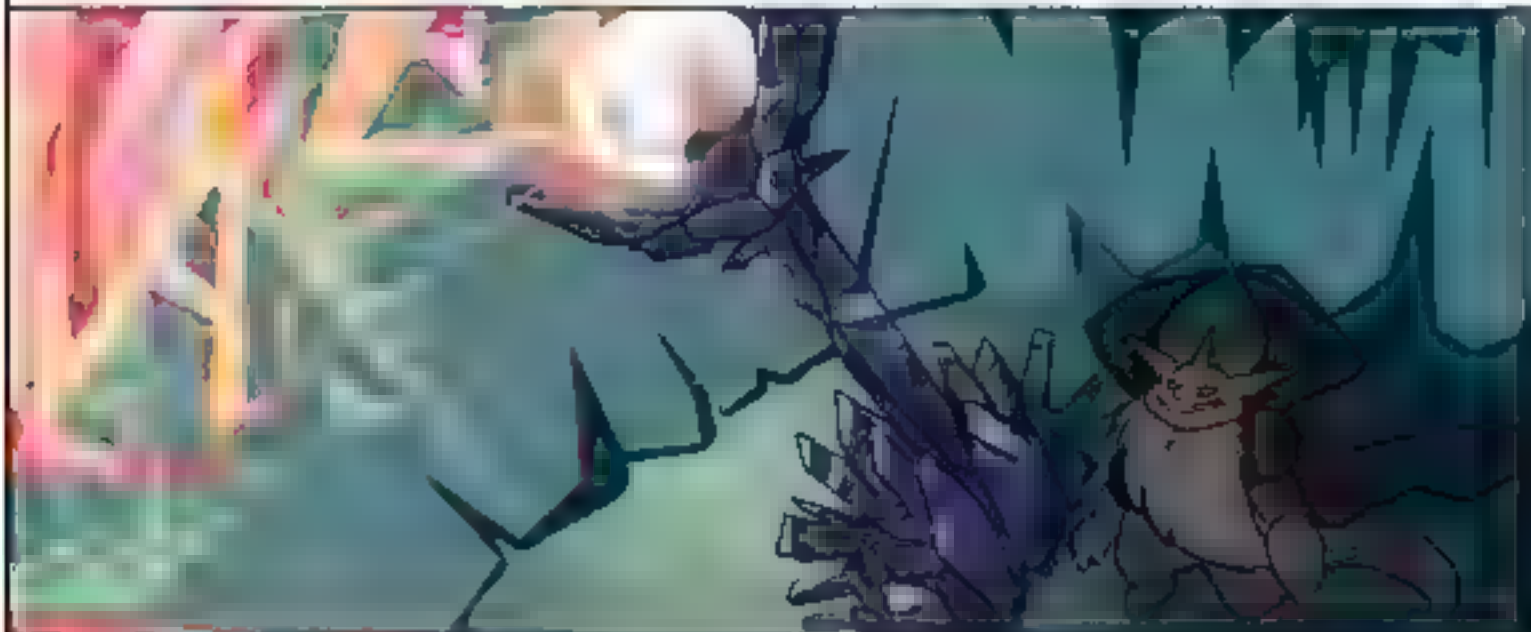
True...
but fate intervened on my behalf.

When the Doomsday Device was destroyed, it released powerful waves of energy all over Mobius...



energy that reached even into The Void!

That energy solved the problem that had kept me from escaping before for you see I had learned that it was in fact the physical act of crossing dimensions that caused the crystallization of my body to occur!



By using the power of Sanctuary to harness Doomsday's energy waves, I was able to activate a spell that teleported me directly out of the Void, bypassing the physical cross that had so frustrated my previous grasp at freedom.

Enough reminiscing, Naugus, get on with it!

Do not presume to...

Remember our deal, Naugus

Looks like Needlnose has you licked, Bat-Ears

Your quick tongue won't save you this time, Quickstar!

Now...



YEOW!

...you obey me.

Obey. You.

Yesssssss...



Excellent, **EXCELLENT!**

Now we can pick this hedgehog's so-called brain for all the information we need!

Whatever you wish to know, runt, find out quickly!

My magic is not as strong away from Sanctuary. I can't hold the Mind Control spell indefinitely!

Hm...first I'd best discover what happened to those Power Stones. They could prove quite the threat.

Rotor believes some of their energy is still inside us both, but not enough for either of us to use.

Tell me, slave.. what has become of the Deep Power Stones?

They disappeared after Sally and I used them to destroy the Doomsday Device.

The Stones themselves are gone

Where is Knothole Village located?

I see...well then, I suppose there really is only one more question to ask.

think I've almost got it.
Sally-girl.

But maybe there's a better way

Hurry Bunnie
I don't even want to *think* of what
they might be doing to Sonic

What do you mean?

Urk sorry Sally-girl
I'm goin as fast as I can

Remember before?
These bolt-brains still think they're
servin' Robotnik, not Snivley.
I'm willin' to bet, y'all put your mind to it.
Sally-girl, if we can use that to get outta here!

They think Snivley is Robotnik.

I... don't know

they think Snivley is Robotnik

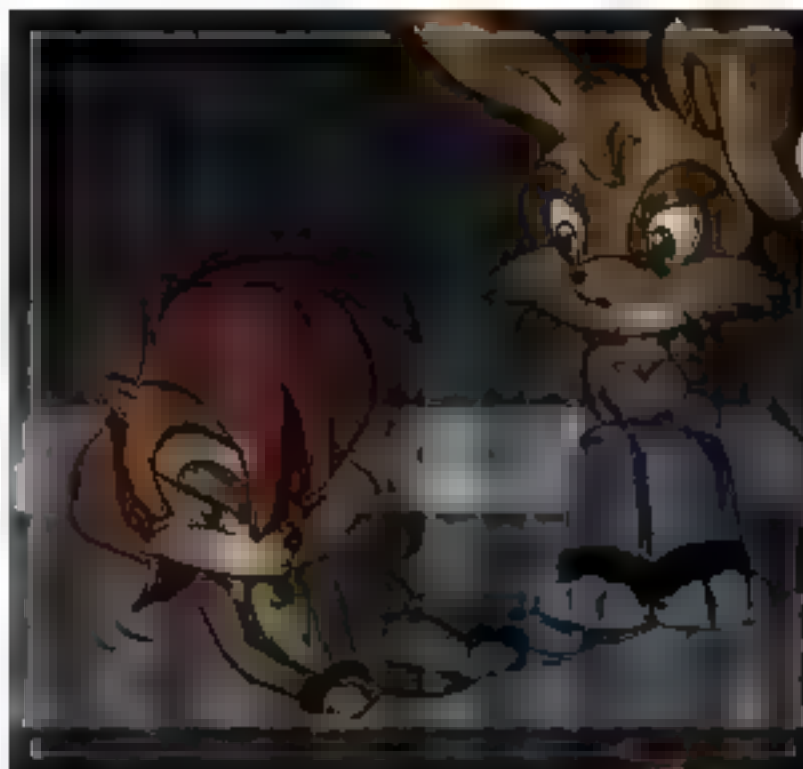
Sally-girl? Y'all OK?

Yes, fine.
Just thinking, that's all.

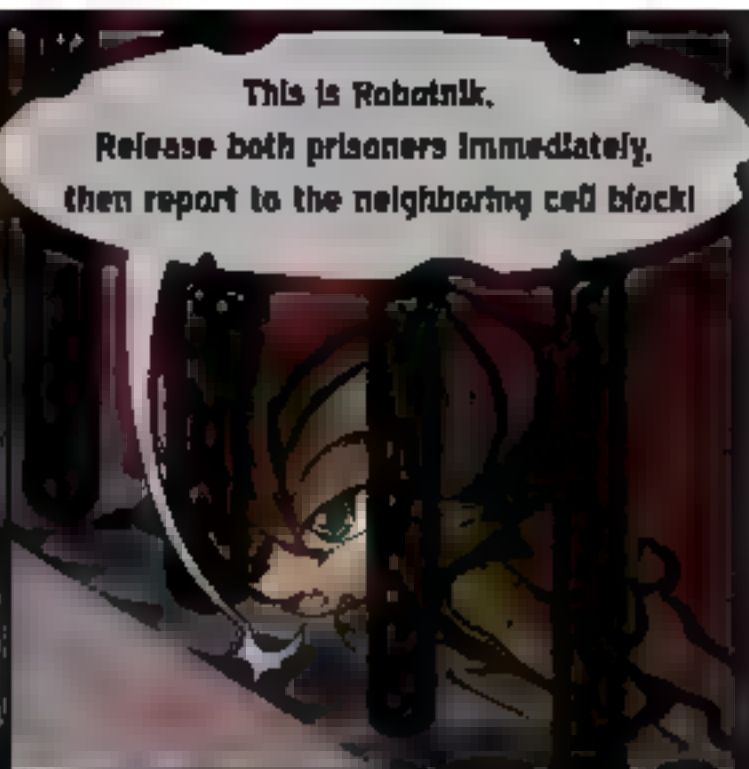
Loud noise detected. investigating cause.

HEY! COME OVER HERE!

Cross your fingers, Bunnie



This is Robotnik.
Release both prisoners immediately.
then report to the neighboring cell block!



At your command, Doctor Robotnik.



Shoot, Sally-girl,
how'd you pull that off?



There's no way Snivley could've programmed
the SWATBots to see him as Robotnik,
and since they recognized Sonic,
I knew for sure their visual systems
weren't tampered with.

realized he must have adjusted
their audio receptors instead!
all he'd need to do is alter his voice a little,
and they'd hear him as Robotnik.



Now that's more like it!

Now, slave, answer me this:
where is Knothole Village located?

In...

In...

Yes? YES?

He's...urgh...he's resisting me!

My...my spell is wearing off!

No! NO! Hurry, get the location!

N...

In your DREAMS, needle-nose!

No...my powers...
they're too weak in this dimension.

Naugus!

Naugus, get up, you lazy, useless...freak!
I will have the location of Knothole!

Not today ya won't, baldy!

CRASH

CLICK

rattle
RATTLE

CLICK

Thank goodness you're OK!

Naturally
Bal-Boy never had a chance
of crackin' this shell!

Yeah, well.
What say we mosey on outta here
before all our shells get cracked?

Sounds like a plan!

I imagine *this* is a refreshing change of pace, huh, Sal?
You savin' me for a change?

Not that I *needed* to be saved,
mind you, but...

Sal?

Just keep moving, Sonic.

Blasted rodents!
How did they escape from the cell?
I had the perfect plan, *PERFECT!*

How, how *HOW?*

they figured out my modification
to the SWATBot's audio receiver!

Heh, your weakness is the same as Robotnik's,
you trust too much in your feeble-minded technology.

Grrrrrr...

I knew that quick-fix was no
substitute for a full reprogramming!

Blast, blast, *BLAST!!!*

Don't start with me,
you washed up wizard!!!

Unless...

What in th' heck was Naugus doin' here?
I thought he couldn't leave the Void
without goin' all shiny on us...

Long story, Bunnie.

Yeah? Well what's he helpin' Shively for?
I thought he *hated* Robotnik...

Dunno, but from the sounds of it
he's got some sorta deal with Needlenose.

Then our troubles just got a whole lot worse.



Déjà vu, huh?

If only...
I'd much rather still be at that party than...
than where we stand now.



Man, Sel, I've seen ya bad,
but I've never seen ya this bad

Sigh

I'd rather you didn't
see me bad at all.



C'mon, what's got ya so upset?
So Snivley beat us to the punch
in settin' up shop in Robotropolis, big deal.

We'll manage, right?
We did with Robotnik, didn't we?



That's the whole problem, Sonic.
We beat Robotnik!

This war was supposed to be over!
We were supposed to have won!



Whoa, sorry, Sel.

No, I'm sorry, I didn't mean to snap like that.
It's just...

for one moment.

one little moment.

really thought it was over

I felt happier than I could ever remember being

Now, though...

we have to deal with it all over again

and I'm scared,

really scared,

that I won't be able
to handle it this time around

Don't think like that, Sai
We never could've
gotten here without you.

And yet, just today,
almost got you and Bunnie killed!

And I almost gave up the secret of Knothole!
Ya don't see me flippin' out, do ya?

Then what are we going to do?
We'll have to face him
and Snivley again eventually!

Nagus is magic, Sai, you can't ask yourself
to be ready for something like that

We'll figure something out, Sai.

We always do



The SWATBots should be fully reprogrammed soon.

Those pesky Freedom Fighters will not elude us so easily next time.

Do not be so sure.
They are a resourceful group.
The Quickster in particular is quite...

troublesome...

That's why I have you, Naugus,
or at least thought it was...


My failure today is frustrating for both of us.
It seems I have overestimated my powers
without Sanctuary to augment them.

Still, I believe I have a solution...

Oh?

You spoke of the Deep Power Stones before,
but I know of another magical power even greater than theirs.

They are known as... *Chaos Emeralds*.



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Petty Distraction RedMenace

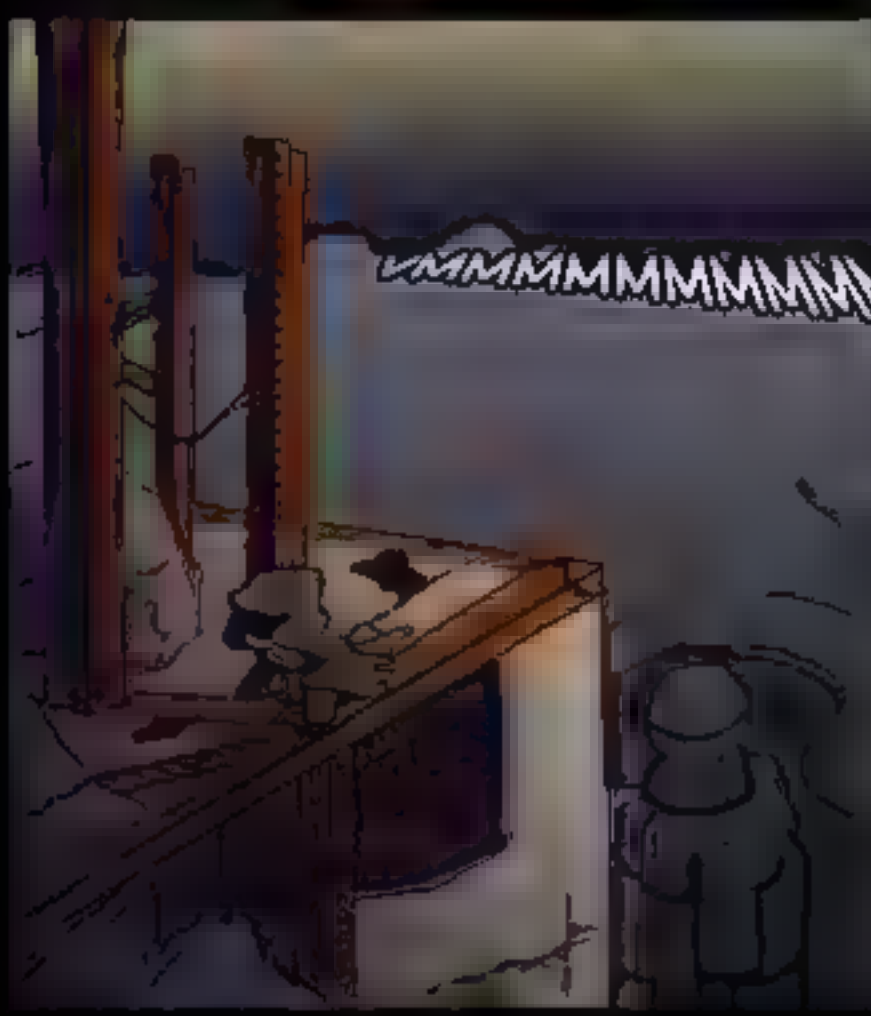
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG SEASON



CHAPTER 2

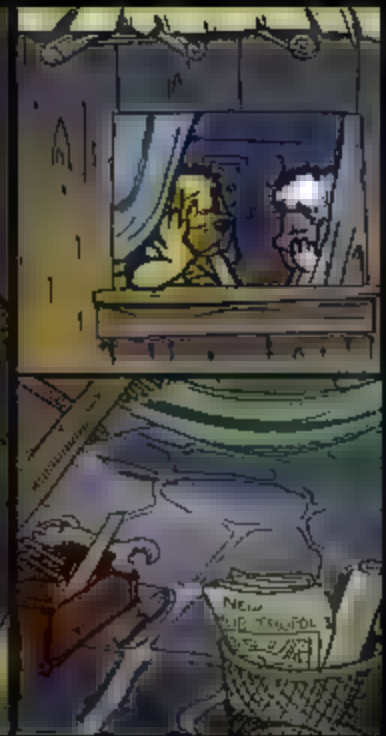


So...this is the place.
This is where I sensed all that power
coming from.



No more time to
wait around and observe...
I have to find out what they know...

...and if I'm too late
already...



Come on, guys,
this is crazy!



Look, we're all bummed
Snivley 'n' Naugus are workin' together
to keep Robuttnik's Empire goin',



but sittin' around mopin' about it
won't do us any good!

We beat Robuttnik,
we can beat these guys too!

Right. It isn't that simple, Sonia.
Naugus was someone who even
Robotnik was scared of, after all...

Oui...zis Naugus,
from what I am told,
he is a hairyfull fiend...

That's "horrible", Ant...

Zee point esz zat e esz powerful
in ways we do not know 'ow to deal with
as we did with Robotneek.

Plus, I can't return to Robotropolis now.

I'm the only Drone unaccounted for
after Doomsday went up in smoke...
he'd figure out I was a Spy in a heartbeat.

SO?

OK, fine, we're startin' at a disadvantage,
but that's never stopped us before!

We know all that, Sonia!
And we know we can't
sit around and wait forever

I've tangled with Horn-Head twice now
'n' walked away just fine, 'n' we didn't have
unc spyin' for us when we started
this whole mess anyway!

But Antoine is right:
this isn't the same fight we had with Robotnik!
And that means we need to
approach it more carefully than before!

C'mon, you two;
whatever the solution to this problem is,
we all know it isn't fighting with each other.

...Right.

Still...that does beg th' question:
what in the hoo-haw're we s'posed t'do now?

The only thing we can do!

If the problem is we don't know enough 'bout Naugus, then we just gotta try 'n' find out more!

The only thing we can do!

if the problem is we don't know enough 'bout Naugus, then we just gotta try 'n' find out more!

Heh heh...
I smell a mission brewin', Sal!

Don't get too excited, Sonic.
I still stand by what I said before...

Heh heh...
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Heh heh...
I smell a mission brewin', Sal!

Don't get too excited, Sonic.
I still stand by what I said before...

[illegible][illegible]

We'll keep it basic for now,
a Recon Mission with a five-man team.
Sound good?

Alright then. In that case...

I'm one of those five,
right, Aunt Sally?

I mean...it was my idea.

Sorta.

'Course it was, Big Guy,
'n' that's why you're absolutely comin' with.

Isn't that right, Sal?

AWESOME!

I won't let you guys down,
I promise!

We know ya won't, kiddo.
Now get goin', you've got a lotta
prep to do for the Big Mission!

Er, yea sir!

Bunnie and Antoine should come too.
Rotor will stay here with Sir Charles and hold down the fort.

Out of course, my Princess.

Could use some exercise...

OK, Sally.

Plan's all set, group's all set.

Once we get a new Power Ring,
we'll be good t'go!



He'll be fine, Sal. I promise.

I'm holding you to that, Sonic.
If anything happens to him...

It won't.
Tails ain't a little kid anymore, Sal,
he can do this.

After all, he learned from th' best.



Thanks. But...

I'm trusting you on this, Sonic.

Don't let me down.





I'm a hog of my word, Sal.
Come SWATBats or sneaky spells,
I won't let Tails get hurt.

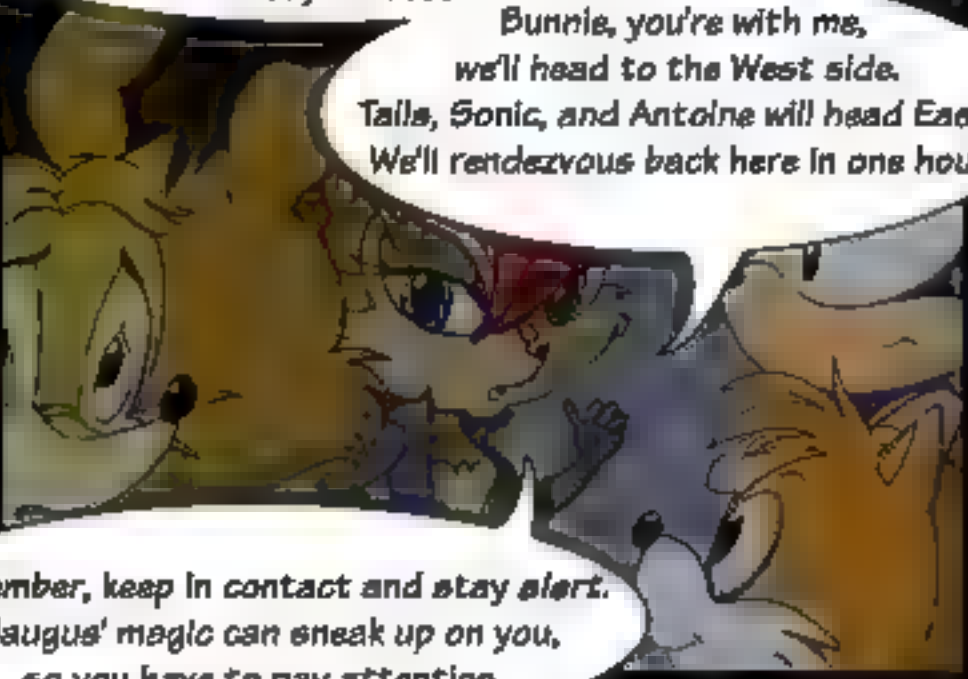




Coast's clear, guys.



We'll split into teams, get a full feel of what Snivley's done with the city, then rendezvous outside the Citadel in ninety minutes.



Bunnie, you're with me, we'll head to the West side. Tails, Sonic, and Antoine will head East. We'll rendezvous back here in one hour.

Remember, keep in contact and stay alert. Naugus' magic can sneak up on you, so you have to pay attention.



OK...Ready?



Ready 'n' Steady!



Let's do it to it!



Them again...interesting...

Man, Snivley fixed this place up quick.

Well, 'a does ave zee
magic touch on 'is side now...

Nah, I don't think Naugus' magic
works like that.

Siden, I think I heard that Crabby creep say
he ain't as powerful in our universe last time I saw him...

Whoa there, Big Guy,
don't go floatin' away on us,
we need ya down here!

I think I spotted somethin'!

Somethin'...weird.

Yeah? Gimme a lift 'n' let me see.

Gotcha, Sonid!

You...you are leaving
me 'ere alone?

Don't worry, Ant,
we'll only be gone a few seconds..

...I think.

You ZINK? Zet is not...



Me either...

There...that's what : saw!

Never...never seen a machine like that in Robotropolis before...!

Hey, don't poop yourself out, kiddo, you can take us back down. I've seen what I need to see.

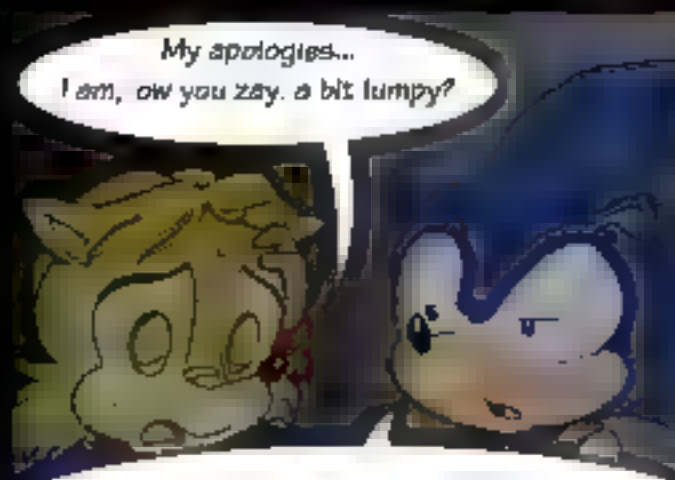


EEEEEEEN!

Whump



Whoa, WHOA!
At ease there, soldier-boy.



My apologies...
I am, ow you say, a bit lumpy?

Normally, I'd correct you 'n' say "lumpy" but honestly?
Can't say you're wrong this time.



Hmph!
So...what did you find?



Somethin that don't belong.
We'd better check 't out.

OK, just...
just gimme a sec first, OK?

Hm hm hm...see, Naugus?

Now that Juilar's robots have been reprogrammed to obey me, things are running along quite smoothly!

Maybe now you'll acknowledge my technological prowess, eh?

Tch...they're *more* than capable, the question is whether *you* have your facts straight about these...

what did you call them again?

Chaos Emeralds.

Primordial relics said to harness the power of the very Universe... I learned of them while researching the Void.

I've no interest in giving your wind-up toys much mind, Snivley, *especially* not before they've shown they're capable of achieving our goals.

How much did you learn?

Enough...

...though I admit, specific information on them was scarce.

Most of what I found came from the myths of long-dead cultures, the Mandarria in particular, and they all spoke of the Emeralds with reverent caution.

Supposedly, the seven Emeralds, scattered across the planet, are physical manifestations of the wild Elements that form our world—fire, water, wind, rock, forest, light, and darkness—that, when gathered together, can bend the very fabric of reality.

Whoever controls all Seven, then, would have potentially *unlimited* power...

Something a man of your...
heh heh... *prestige*...
could most certainly find useful.

At the very least, it would solve your Rodent problem, eh?

True, true...

And even if the Emeralds do prove to be only a Fairy Tale, I'm sure we can find other uses for our new Scanning Apparatus.

I still say you should let me use my Magic to track them instead...

Yes, well, you're not the one in charge, are you?

After all, if it can pick up sources of concentrated energy like your supposed Emeralds, it could also track those blasted Gold Rings the Hedgehog is so fond of.

My Apparatus is far more reliable than any silly spell, and once we create a mobilized version... hm hm...the possibilities will be endless.

Of course, using a Scanner of that magnitude will put a strain on the City's Power Grid...

... but it will be more than worth it if it means stamping out those verminous Freedom Fighters once and for all.

It would seem our new Project has attracted the attention of a certain Blue Pest...

I suppose you want me to take care of them?

Tch! After your miserable failure last time? Go, but take a Mech-Walker team with you.

I'll order a squad to rendezvous with you at the Apparatus.

What d'you think it is?

And what do you zink it is being for?

Dunno...but I'm gonna find out.
You two stay here,
I'm gonna move in closer

No way you go in alone, Sonic! Lemme come too!

At ze very least, contact ze Preencess
and Madememoiselle Rabbit!
Perhaps reinforcements...?

Not a chance!

Only reason Needlenose would put something like
that in the middle of the city is if it's really important,
'n' that means...

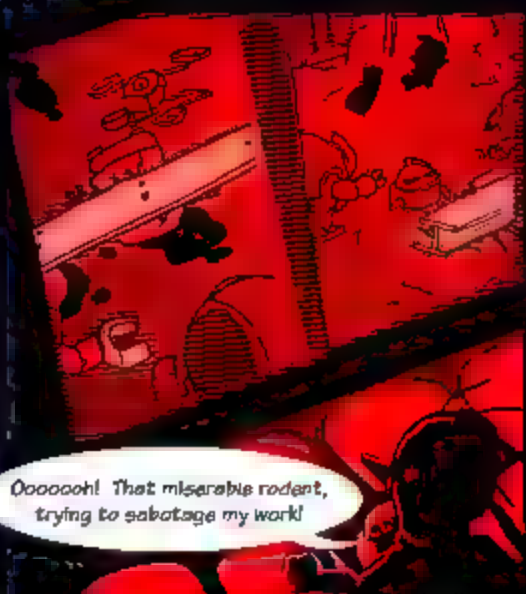
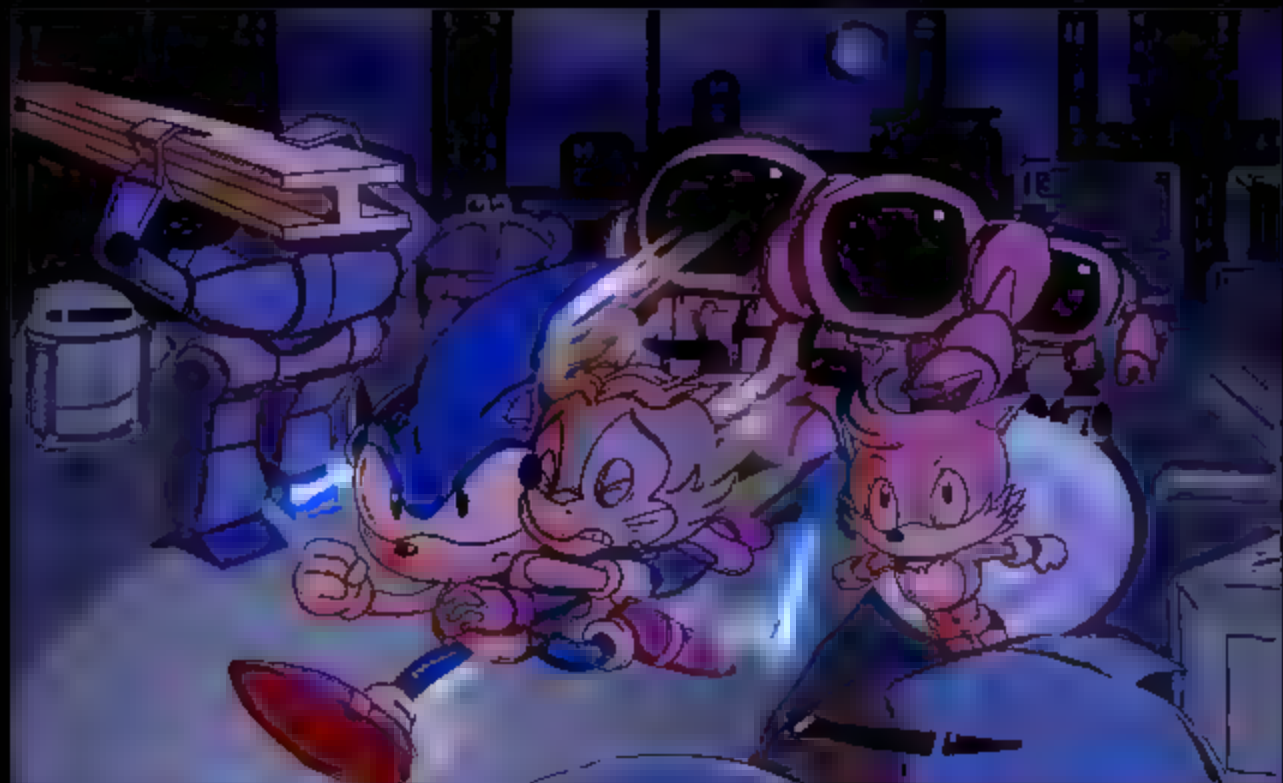
BLAM

...trouble!

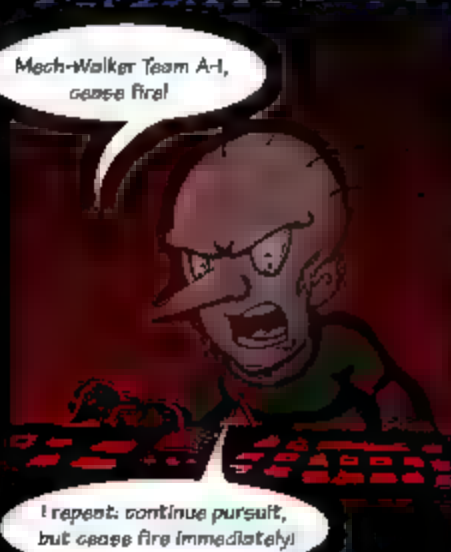
You fuel!

What do you zink you are doing?
You are eading toward more danger!

Keep your goo, Ant,
I know what I'm doin'!



Ooooooh! That miserable rodent,
trying to sabotage my work!



Mech-Walker Team A-1,
cease fire!

I repeat: continue pursuit,
but cease fire immediately!



Heh...knew it.



Hey, lil' bro! Follow my lead,
we're headin' to the top 'o' this heap!

Gotta go, Sonic!



...We 'ave stopped moving.
It is safe to open my eyes?

You scared of heights?

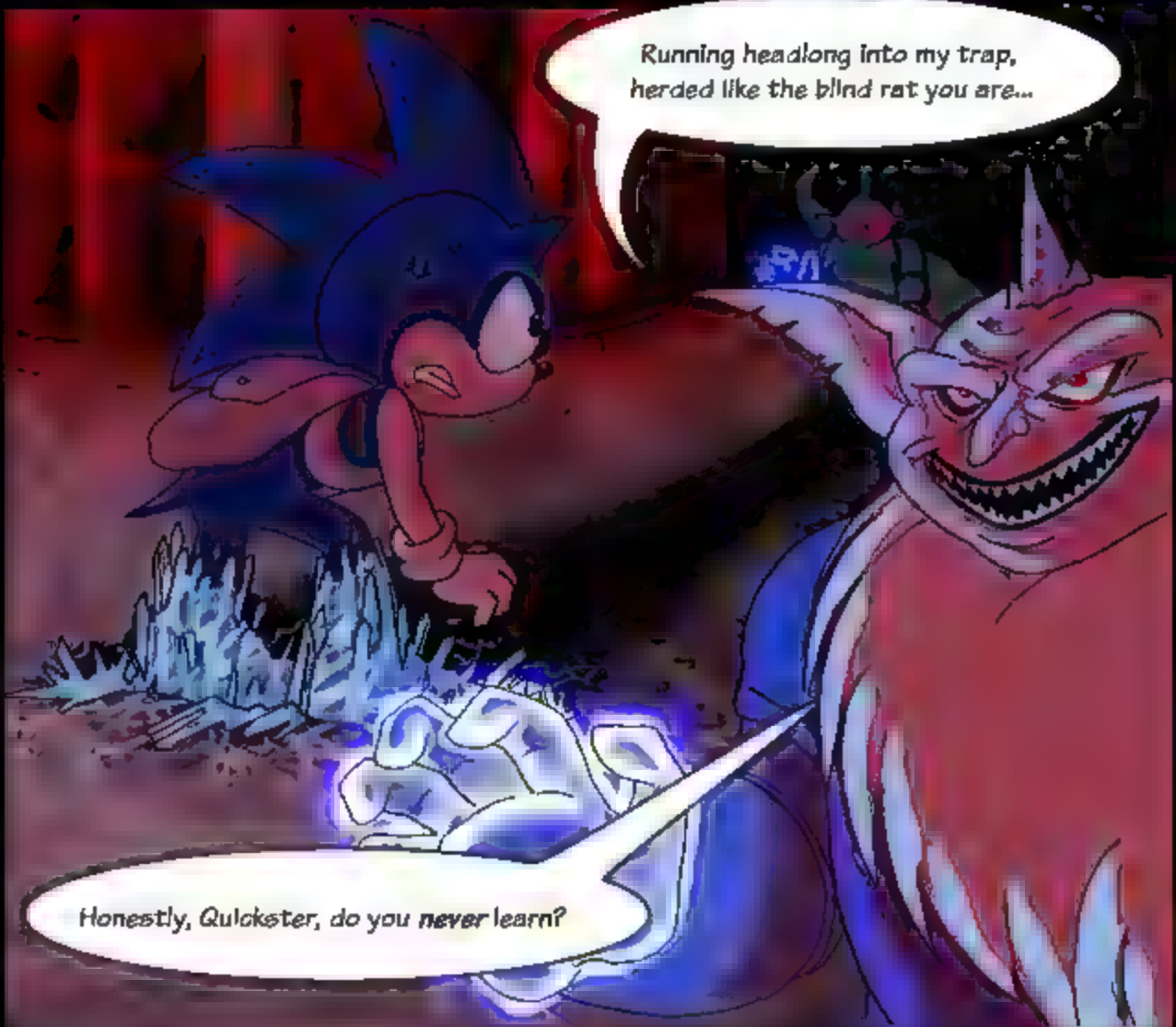
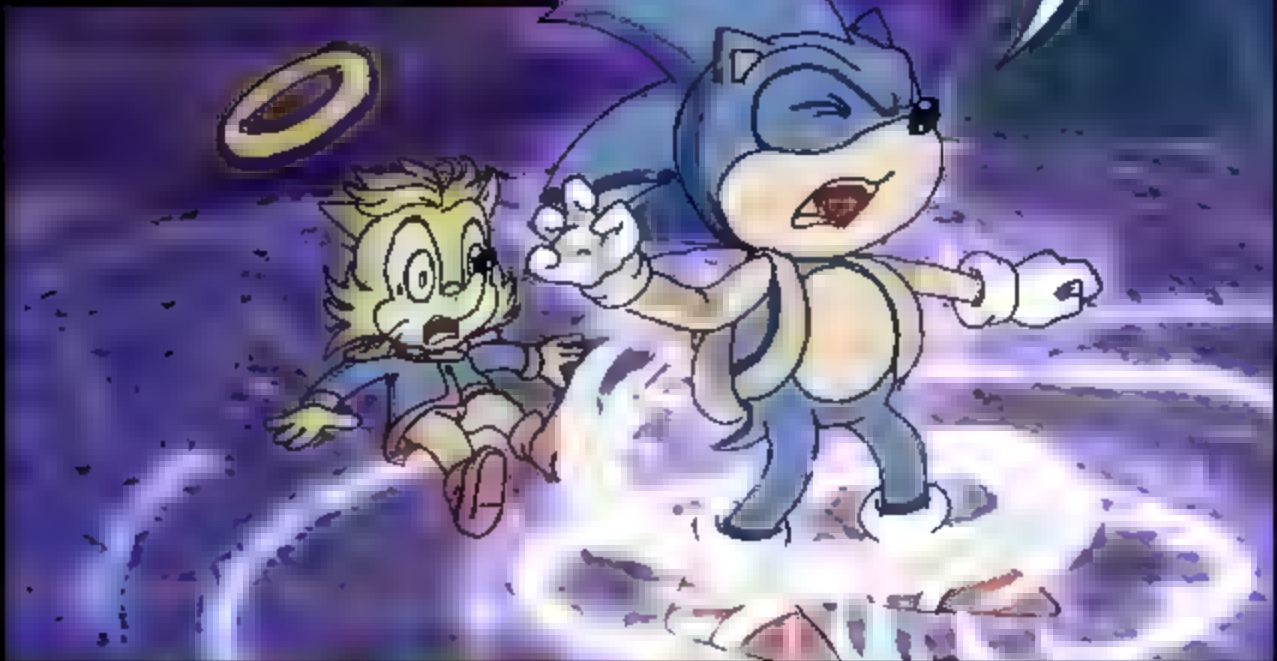
nod

THUNK

Then no.

Heights are the least
of your worries, Quikster!

Crud...!



Running headlong into my trap,
herded like the blind rat you are...

Honestly, Quikster, do you *never* learn?

Don't make fun 'o' my noggin when you're the guy whose Boss got it into his head to put *this* eye-sore in his own city.

A minor complaint compared to the reward we stand to reap...

And that'd be...?

You'll never know.



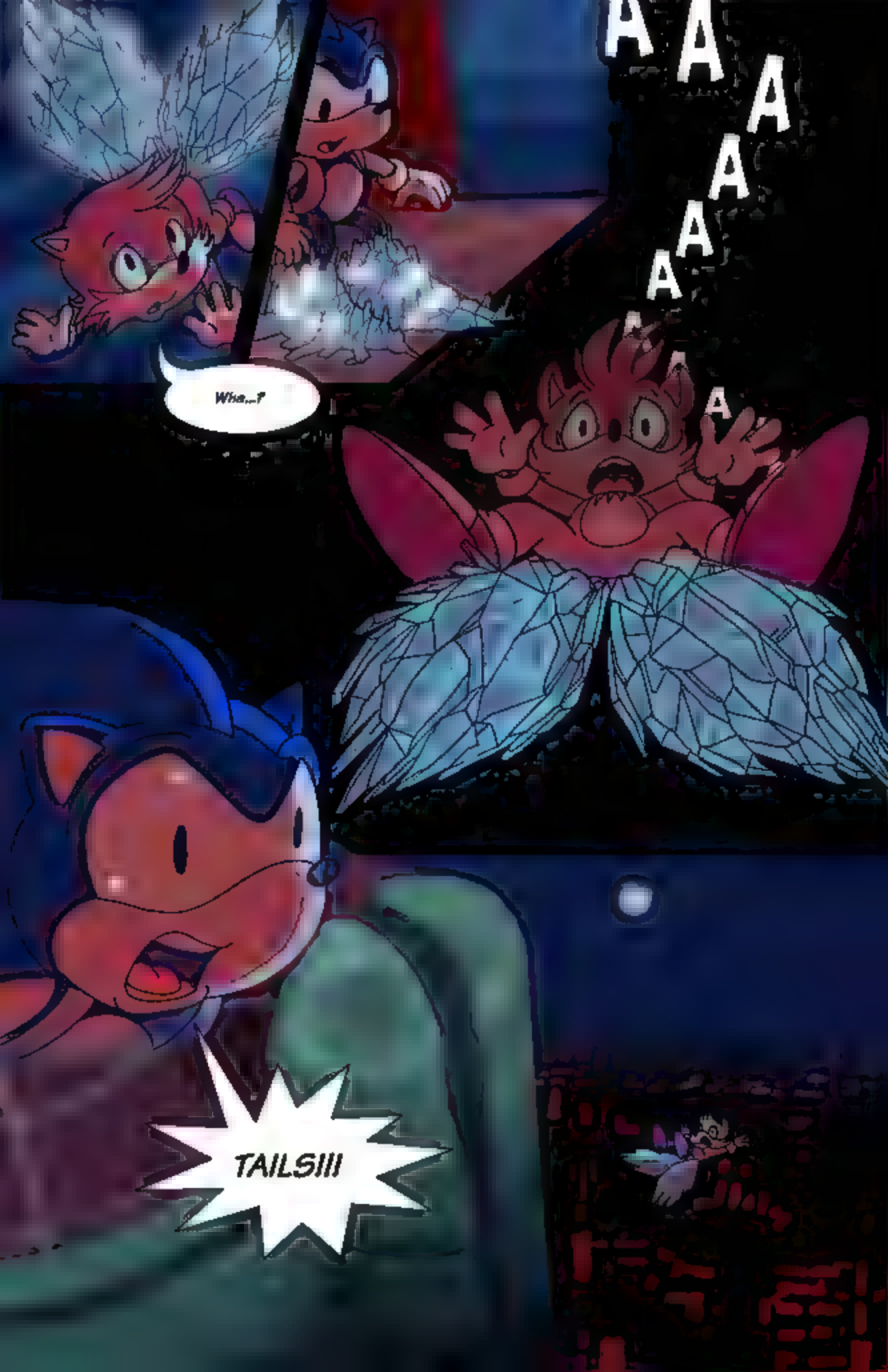
Surprise, Pointy Ears!

SLAM

NYARRGH!!

WHO DARES...?!!

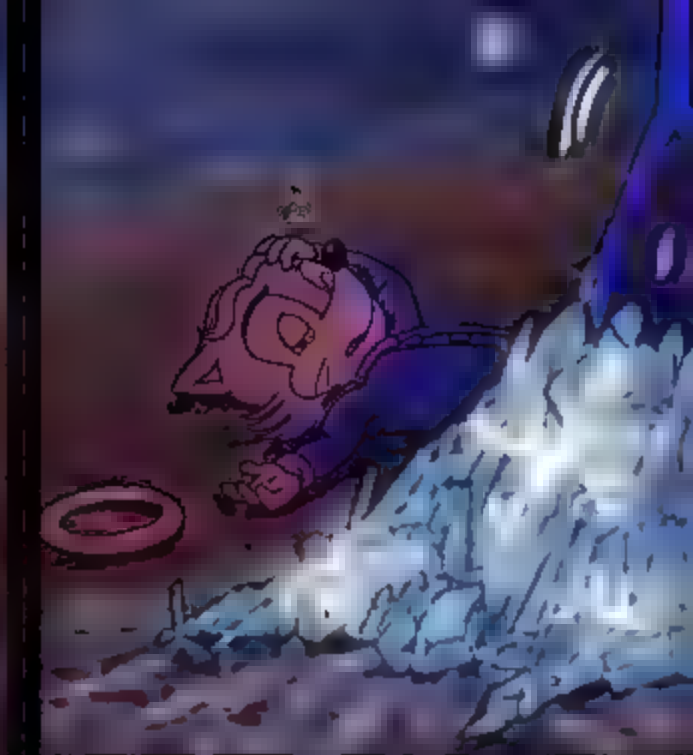
interfering little...!

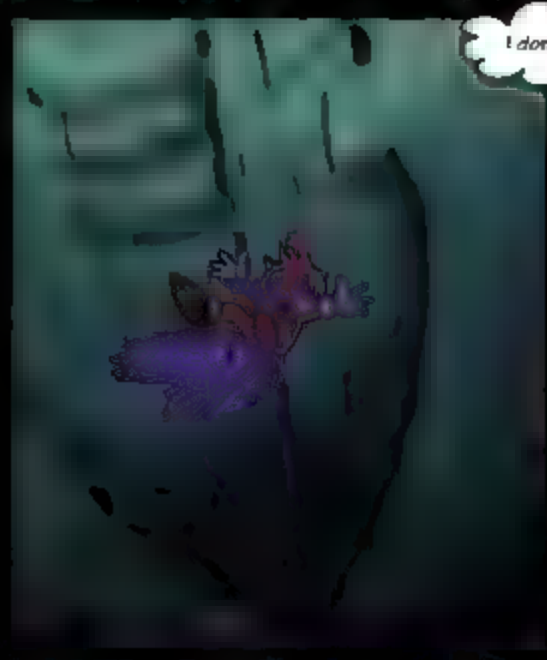


Who...?

TAILS!!!

A A A
A A A
A A A



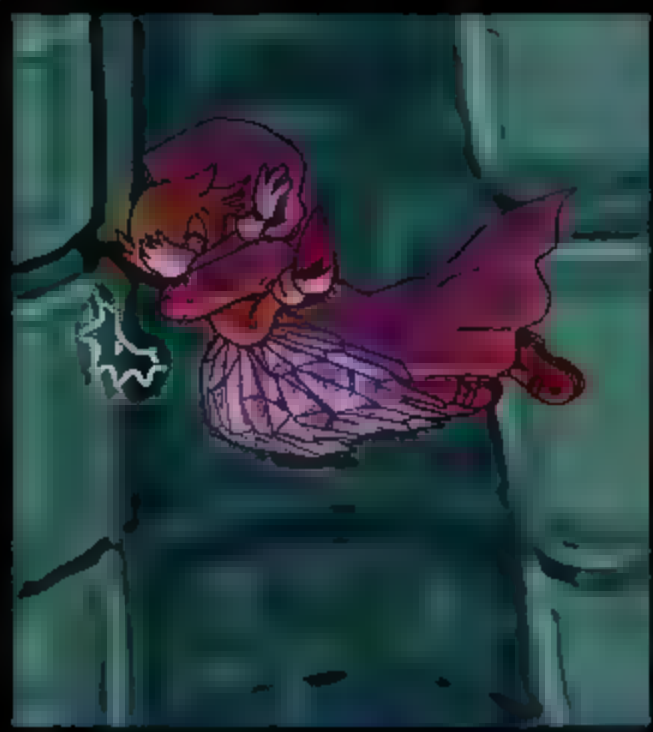


I don't wanna die!



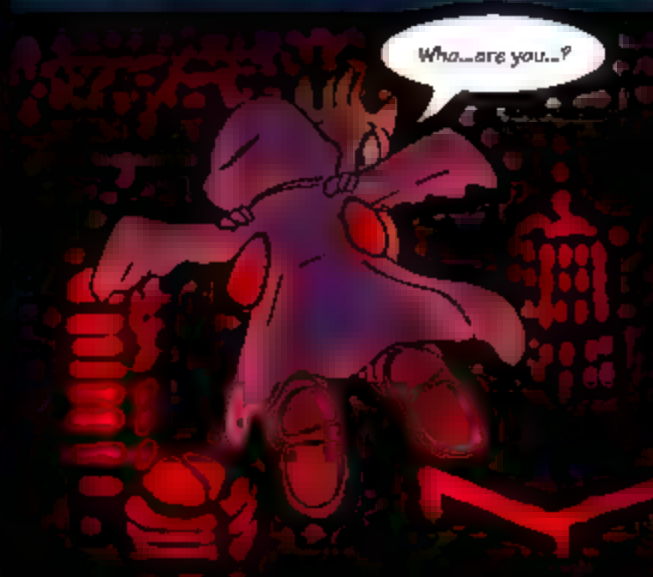
Sonic...
Aunt Sally...
everyone..

I let you all down...!

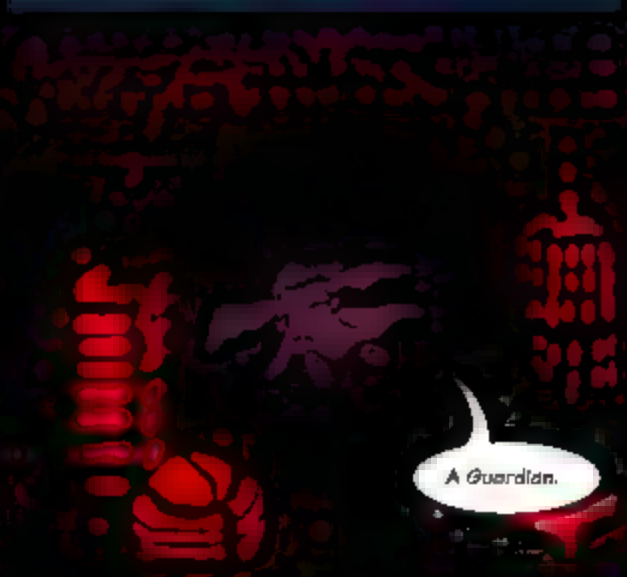


WHAT THE...??

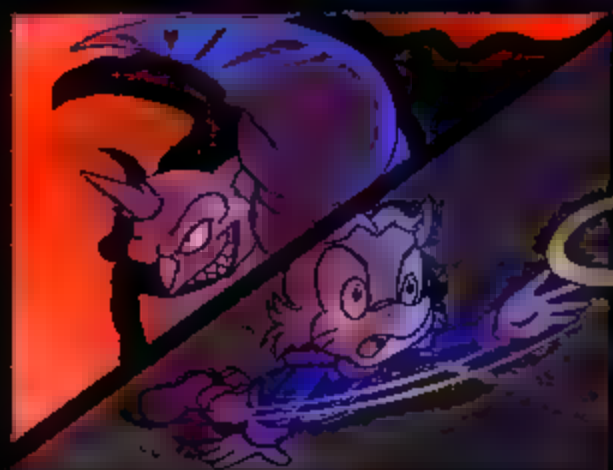
Calm yourself.
You are safe now.



Who...are you...?



A Guardian.



Miserable mechanized monstrosities!
The Hedgehog's already escaped,
you slow-moving scrap piles!

RRAGH!!!

SMASH

Still, scrap *does* have its uses...

Come on, come on!
He had to have
pulled up somehow...

*Nobody's mourning
anyone yet, Anti!*

I second that!

Zonic, while I too am
in ze mourning of Tails,
zis is not a safe place
to be doing it in!

Of course I am!

You didn't really think
I'd go down *that* easy, did ya?

TAILS!
YOU'RE OK!!!

Who's your new friend?

Not for a minute, bud.

It's OK, Sonic, he's on *our* side!

Well, I *think* he's on our side...

I believe there is much we need to discuss.
However, it will have to wait...

Why is zat?

Aw man, doesn't
this creep *ever* give up?

I am zinking now is ze time
to be beating a nasty retreat, oui?

slgh

For once, Ant? You're right.
We gotta contact Sal 'n' Bunnie
'n' get outta here...

And you?

I will come with you for as long as you will let me. We still need to talk.

Follow me, you two! Ant, drop Sal 'n' Bunnie a line, tell 'em to get to the Rendezvous Point 'n' fast!

TEEEAAAAAGH!

Blasted vermin, escaped again...

Naugus! Come in, Naugus!

I read you, Snivley...

Did you catch the Freedom Fighters?

No...

Very disappointing, Naugus...but at least you kept those rodents away from my Apparatus.


Perhaps now my drones can finish their work uninterrupted.

There is one other thing, Snivley...


What? What?

There was someone else with them...


someone different...




C'mon, c'mon...it's been almost fifteen minutes, Sal 'n' Bunnie shoulda been here by now...!



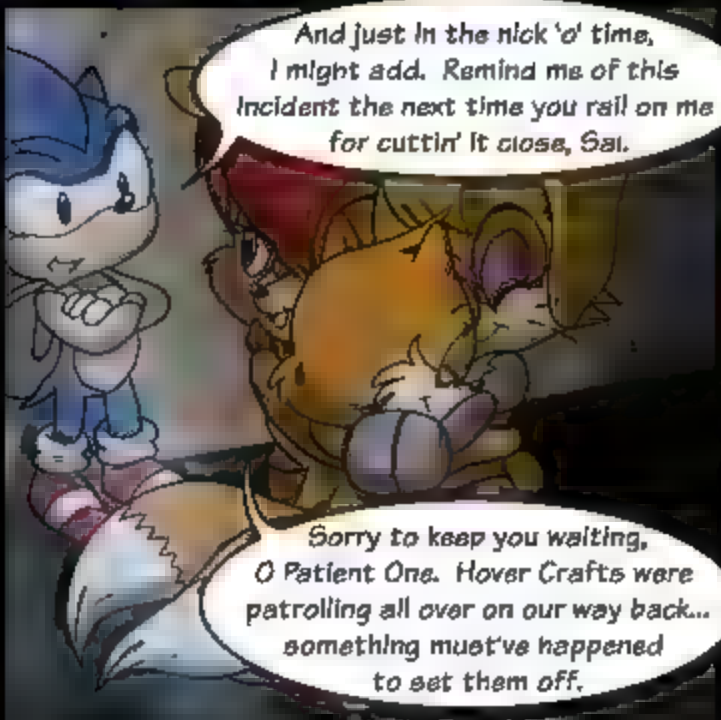
They're...they're OK, Sonic...I know they are...



That's some good intuition ya got there, Sugah-Fox!




Aunt Sally!
Aunt Bunnie!
Ya made it!




And just in the nick 'o' time, I might add. Remind me of this incident the next time you rail on me for cuttin' it close, Sai.

Sorry to keep you waiting, O Patient One. Hover Crafts were patrolling all over on our way back... something must've happened to set them off.



If by "something", you mean us.

What happened, Sonic?



It's a long story, but we've got someone here who wants to talk...

Who in the heck're you?

A Guardian.

He said that to me too..

Tell me...

you..

and you..

...you two have been in contact with a strong source of great power recently, haven't you?

Yes...but how did you know, and why are you interested?

I have a...Sixth Sense...for such things. As for my "Interest"...that is rather complicated.

Try us, Mr. Mystery.

That's easier said than done... neither of us knows the other very well, so you will understand if there is some information I do not yet wish to reveal.

However, what I can say is this: whatever power you invoked, doing so has consequences further reaching than you may realize.

It is of the utmost importance you understand that truth. That is why I came here to this city: to give you this, so you might better understand.

Thank you...

Keep it safe, and read it with an open mind.

Whoa there, L'il Grey Ridin' Hood,
just where d'you think you're goin'?



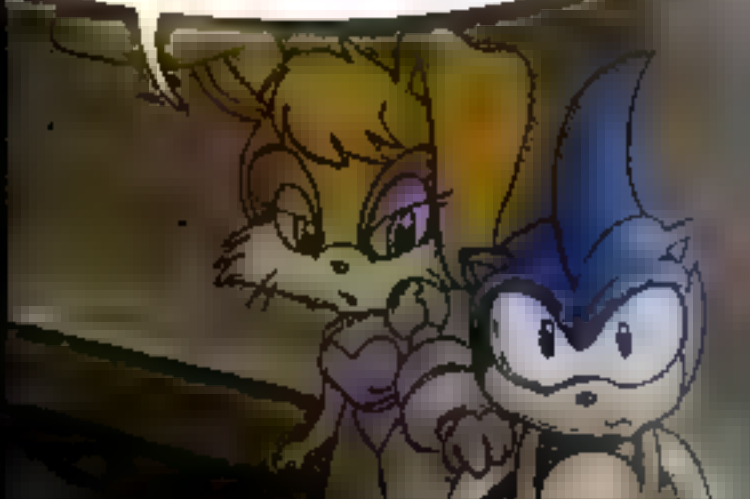
Yeah, that wasn't exactly the most
informative Q 'n' A we've ever had. There's
still a lot we wanna know.

All you need to know at
the moment is on that scroll. It is
likely we will meet again, but for
now, I must leave...



there are other
matters I must attend to...

Hold up, Sugah-Hog, ah wanna
follow him too, but we ain't got time fer
chasin' shadows right now.



Bunnie's right. We'd better get
back to Knothole quickly so we can
examine this scroll and you can fill us in
on just what happened.



Out...I can not wait for
zis day to be over ..





I know Safa usually the one puttin' ya to bed, Big Guy, but she 'n' Rotor are a little busy with that Mystery Scroll your New Friend gave 'em tonight

That's OK, Sonic, it's cool.

Sleep well, kiddo.

Um, Sonic?

Yeah, Tails?

Earlier...back in the city...
when...when Naugus zapped my tails...

...when I was falling...
when I thought...I wasn't gonna make it...

I got really scared.

...I know Freedom Fighters aren't supposed to get scared... 'n' I'm OK now, honest, but...

...I feel like I let you down...
like I can't come with you guys to Robotropolis anymore because I'm not tough enough...

You kiddin', Big Guy? Of course you can, you were great out there today! Spottin' that machine, gettin' the drop on Naugus...we'd be crazy to leave you out.

Look...just because you got scared, that's no reason you can't be a Freedom Fighter anymore. Bein' scared...it's practically part of the job description for us.

R...really?

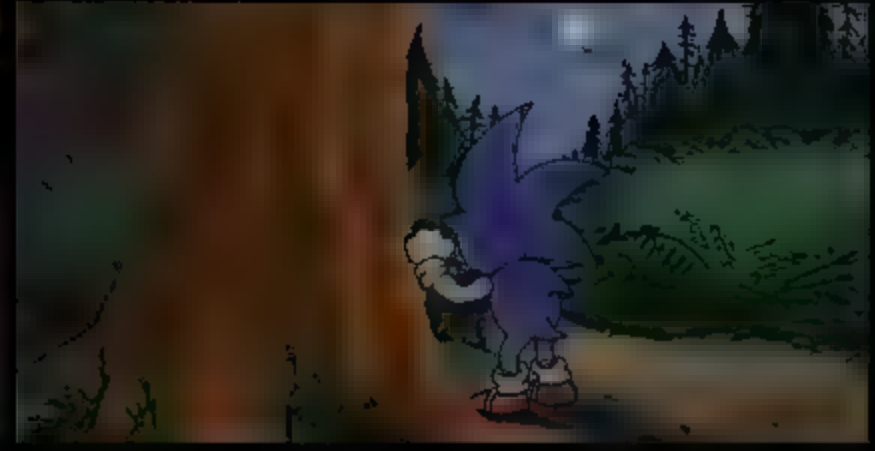
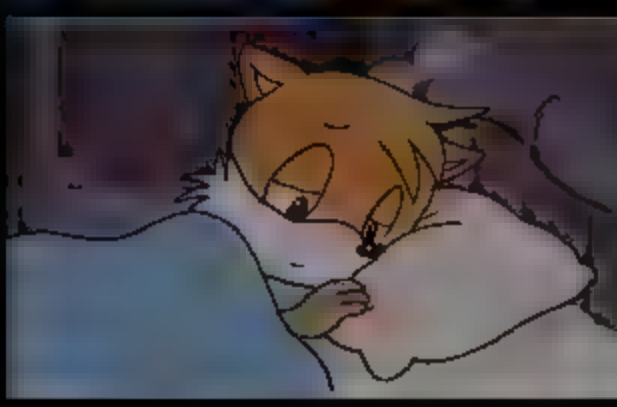
Really. And I know it's hard, but the thing that counts is gettin' past that fear 'n' still doin' what ya gotta do. You did that today, Tails, 'n' that's how I know you're a Freedom Fighter now.

Thanks...Sonic.

No prob, Big Guy.

Goodnight, Sonic.

Night, Tails.





I honor those who came before me.

I have been to the surface, Father,
and my fears have been confirmed.

The powers of Chaos have
been invoked by those below, and now I
suspect evil eyes have begun trying to
seek out more ways to use it.

I have yet to fully determine
who my allies and enemies truly are in
this fight, but we will see in time.

This...is only the beginning.





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Head Producers and Editors of Side Storys Paul Scott, John Roberts

Producers and Directors of Season and FUS Paul Scott and John Roberts

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If you wish to advertise Season on your website or blog please use one of our banners that you can find here:

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For further talk on Season, please join the FUS forums

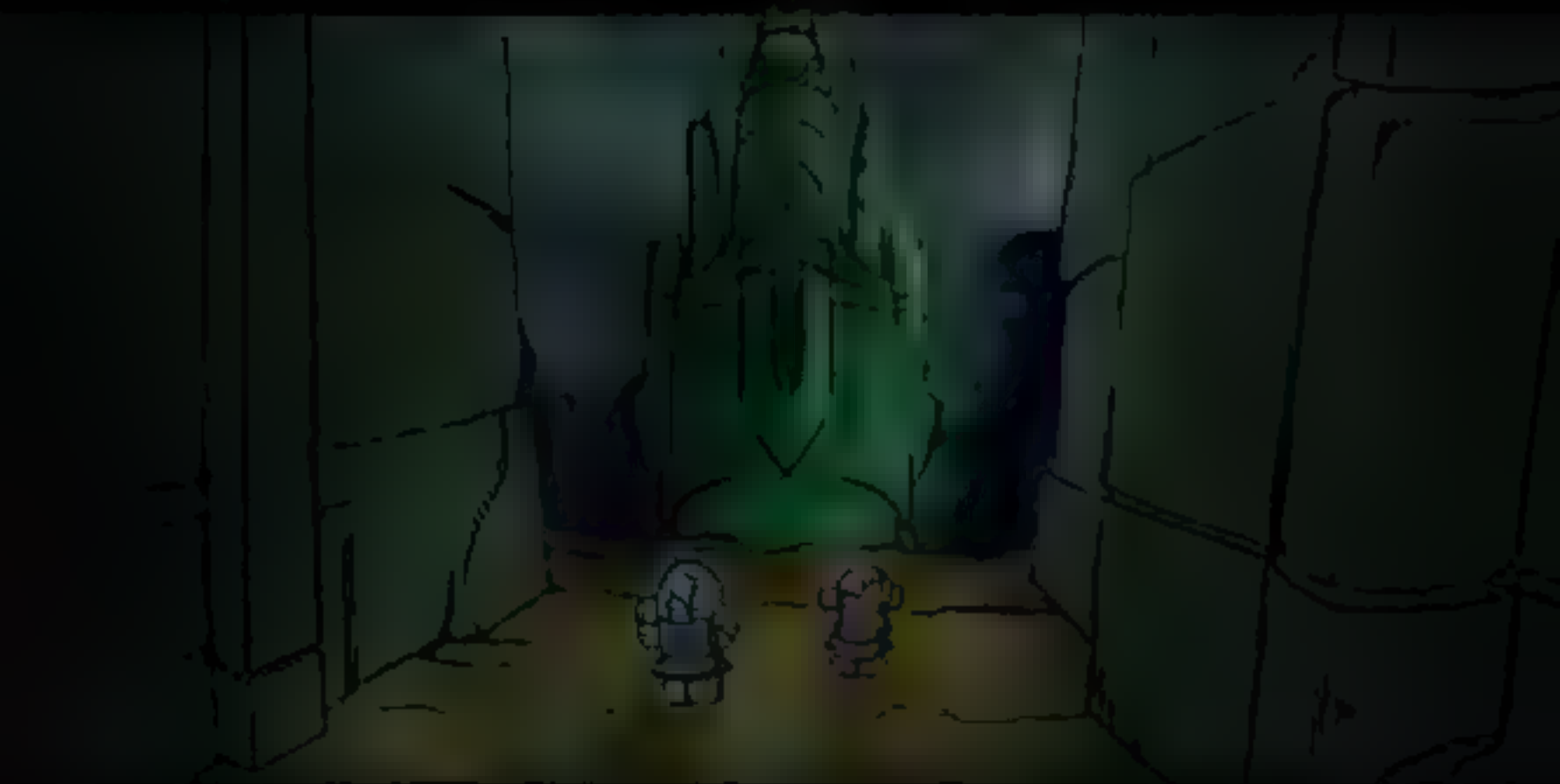
<http://sonicsatam.com/forums/>

What do they put in those Chili Dogs?

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SEASON



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG SEASON



CHAPTER 3



Coast's clear, Sugah-Rotel

Do yer thing!



Man, this thing is just amazing!

I mean, the scale of it is impressive enough, but the precision of the design, the expert use of materials...!



Got it, Bunnie.

Yeah, ya might wanna save the Techno-Geek stuff 'til after we're outta here, Sugah-Rote...

Heh heh...right, right.



OK, Bunnie, that should do it.



Let's get this back to Sally, and fast!



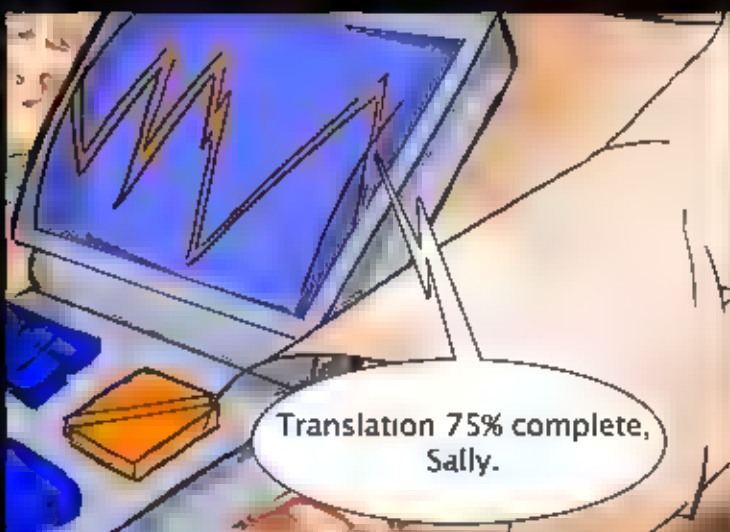
How's the translation coming, Nicole?



Translation 75% complete, Sally.

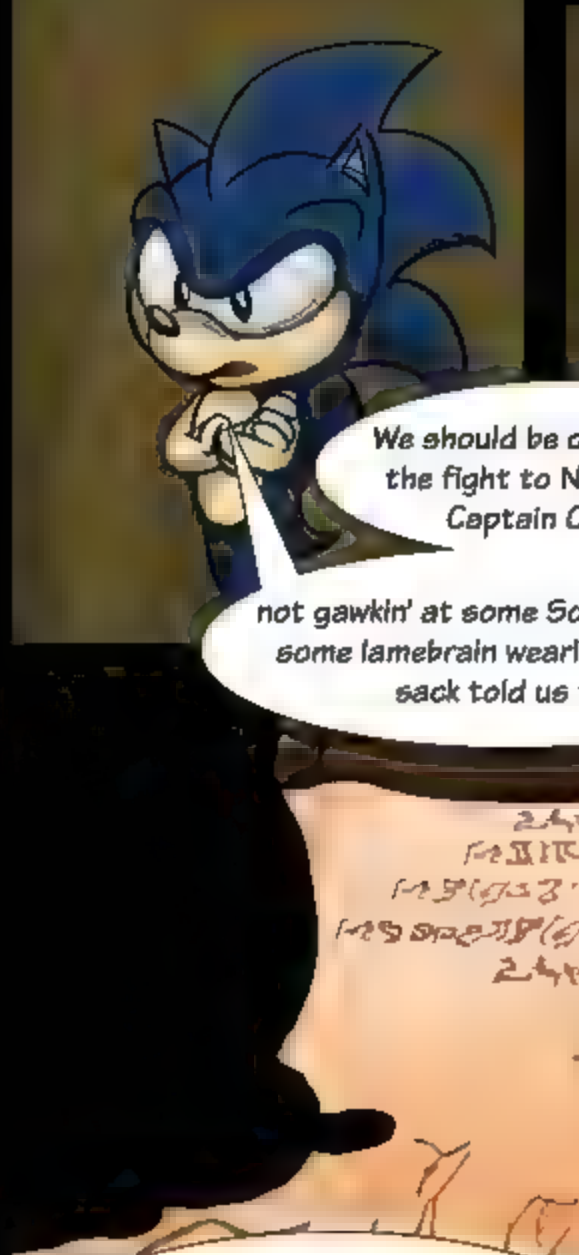


No offense, Sal, but I think you're wastin' your time.



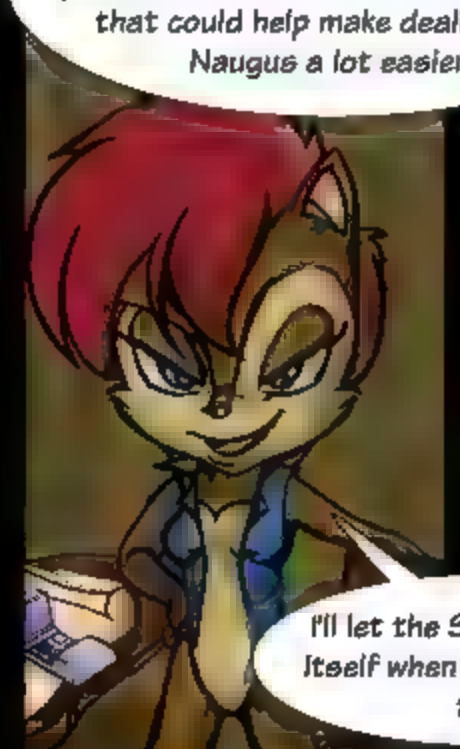
A panel showing Sonic and Sally. Sally is sitting at a desk with a typewriter, looking at a scroll. Sonic is standing next to her, looking at the scroll.

Why bother with the stupid thing?

A panel showing Sonic standing and speaking. He has a determined expression.

We should be out there takin' the fight to Needle Nose 'n' Captain Crabmeat,

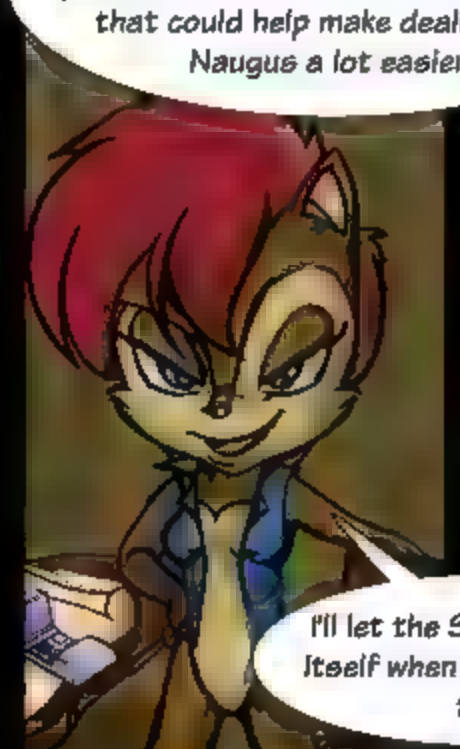
not gawkin' at some Scroll just 'cuz some lamebrain wearin' a potato sack told us to.

A panel showing Sally standing and speaking. She has a confident, slightly smug expression.


Because that "Guardian" said it had important information on it, information that could help make dealing with Naugus a lot easier.

A panel showing Sally and Sonic. Sally is standing and speaking, while Sonic is standing next to her, looking at her.

Translation complete, Sally.

A panel showing Sally standing and speaking. She is looking directly at the viewer.

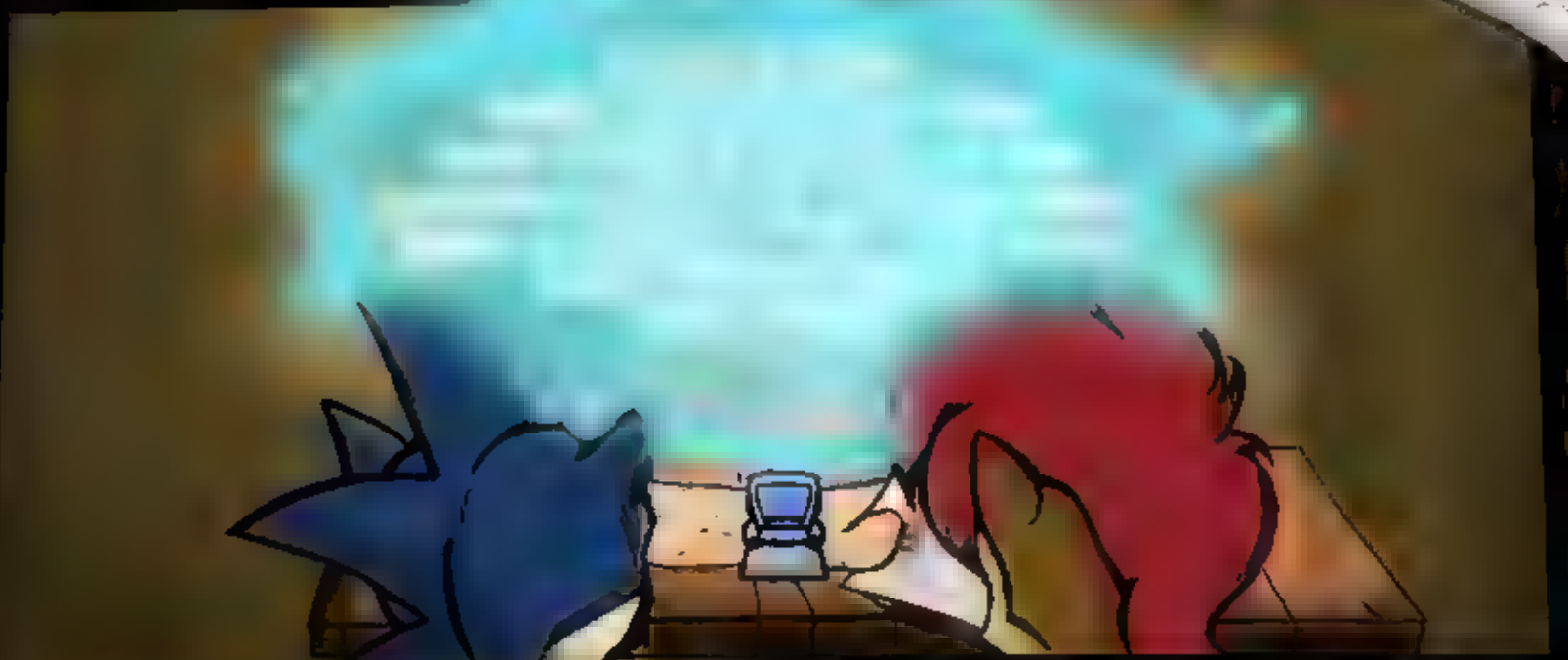
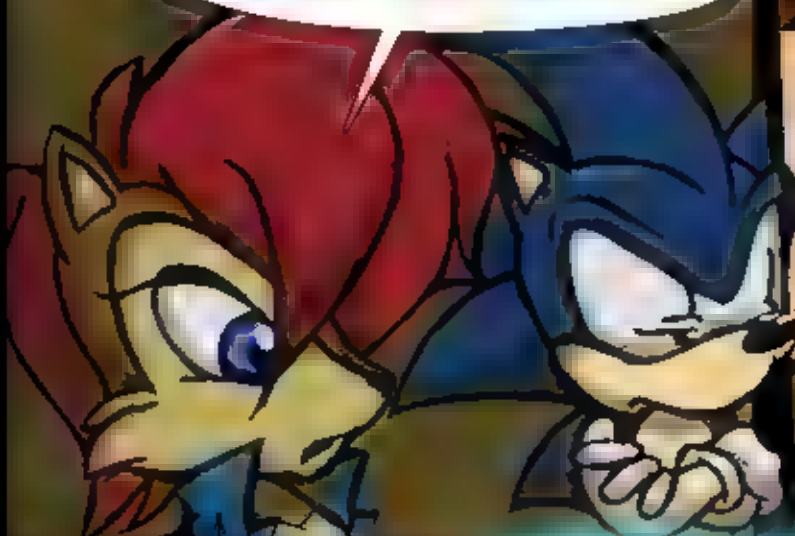
I'll let the Scroll speak for itself when it's translated, then.

A panel showing Sonic standing and speaking. He is looking slightly to the side with a smug expression.

Oh, right, 'cuz a piece of unreadable paper is so trustworthy.

Well, I guess we're gonna find out...
Nicole, display translation.

Acknowledged, Sally.

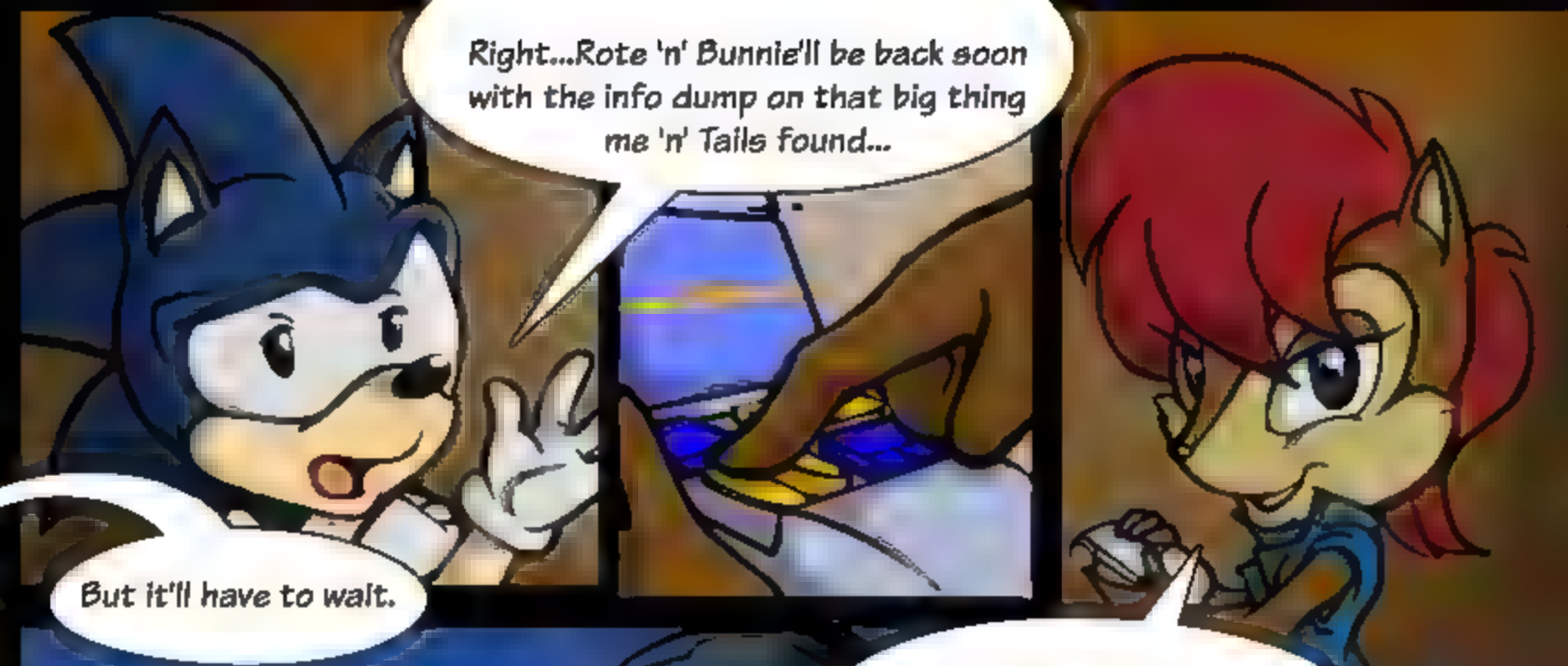


A riddle...

No wonder I didn't like that stupid
piece 'o' paper!



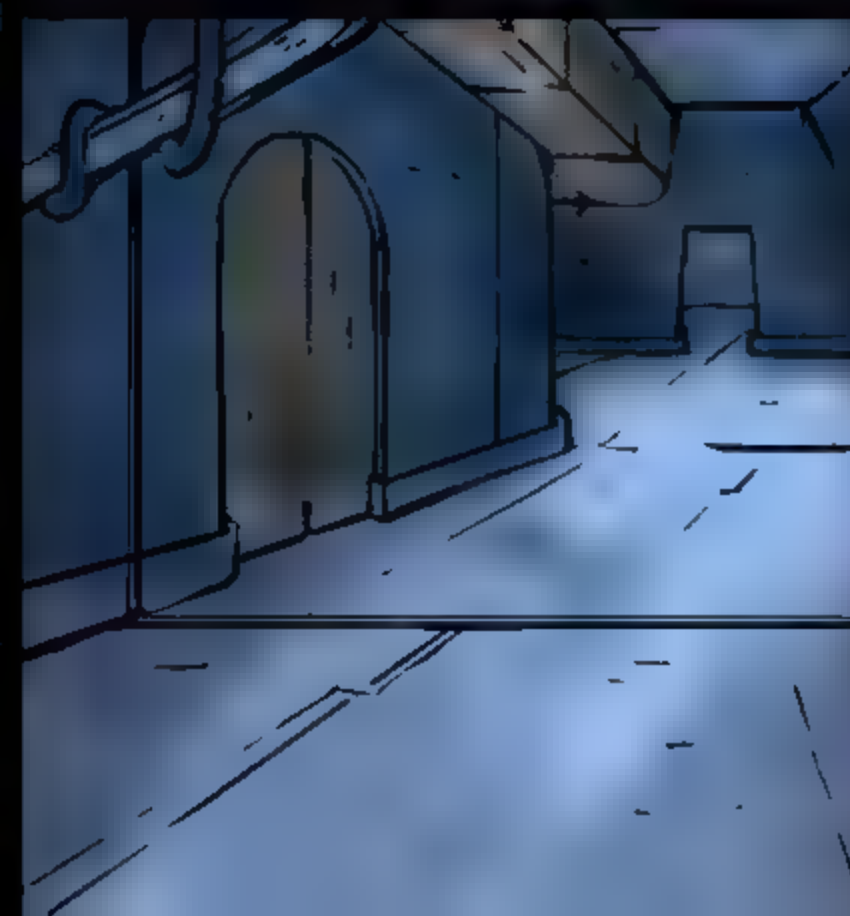
Looks like we've still got a bit
of work to do on this...



Right...Rote 'n' Bunnie'll be back soon
with the info dump on that big thing
me 'n' Tails found...

But it'll have to wait.

Then let's go get updated.







Grrrr...



I grow terribly weary of these interruptions, Snively...



This is no mere "interruption", Naugus.



I require your assistance for the next phase of tasting the Chaos Eye, so get to the Command Center, and-

STOP

WHOOSH



-be quick abou-EEK!



I'm here, Snively... what do you want?

Shhhh

A close-up of Dr. Eggman's face. He has a long, pointed nose and a small, mischievous smile. He is wearing his signature blue suit with a red collar.

The Chaos Eye is ready for a test run.

cough

cough

I need you to head out into the city so I can see if it can detect "magical" energies such as yours...

A close-up of Dr. Eggman's face. He is looking slightly to the side with a smug expression. A red, glowing orb is visible in the background.

Or that of the Chaos Emeralds.

A close-up of Sonic the Hedgehog's face. He has a determined, slightly angry expression with furrowed brows.

I am to be your Guinea Pig, then?

A close-up of Dr. Eggman's face. He is looking down with a smug, slightly sinister expression.

Would you prefer "Lab Rat"?

A close-up of Sonic the Hedgehog's face. He is looking directly at the viewer with a very angry, intense expression, his teeth bared.

Do not test me, little man...

A close-up of Dr. Eggman's face. He is looking to the side with a smug, confident expression.

Now, now.. Don't forget about our-

EEKKKK!!

SMASH


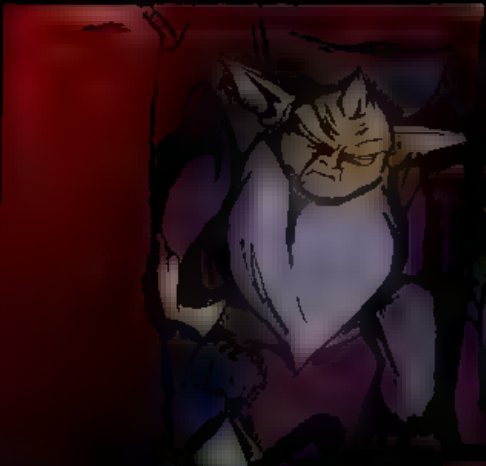


The question is, do you?


I REMEMBER OUR "DEAL", VERMIN!



N-n-now Naugus, c-c-calm yourself...!



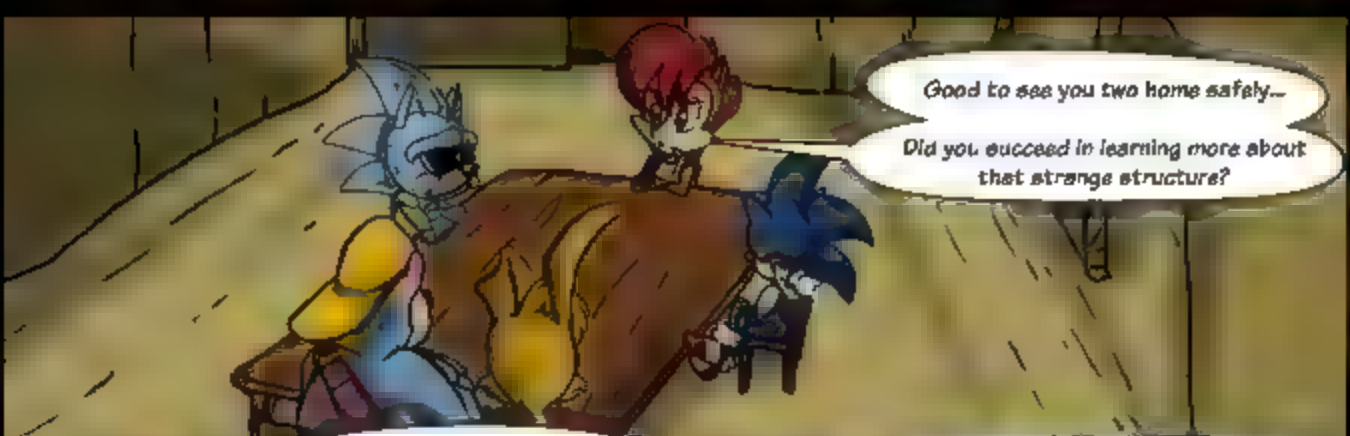
Just remember, Snively.
I disposed of your
Uncle.



Fall to live up to your end of
the Deal, and I will do the
same to you.



SLAM



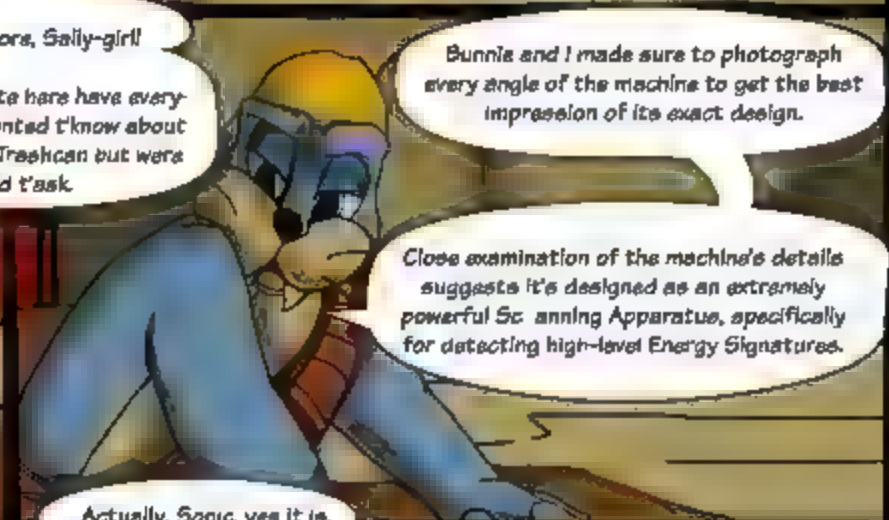
Good to see you two home safely--

Did you succeed in learning more about that strange structure?



Worry no more, Sally-girl!

Me'n' Sugar-Rate here have every thing ya ever wanted t'know about that overelized Trashcan but were afraid t'ask



Bunnie and I made sure to photograph every angle of the machine to get the best impression of its exact design.

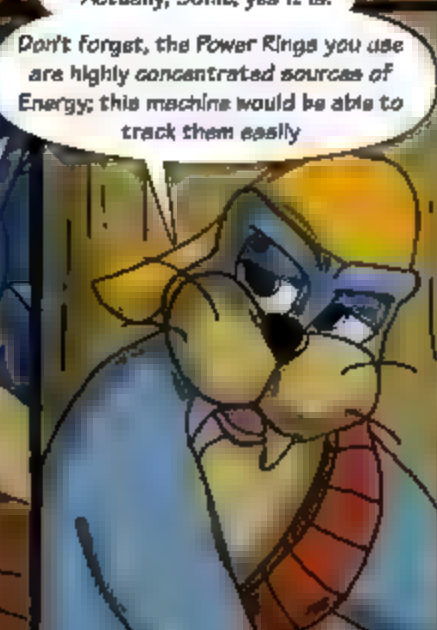
Close examination of the machine's details suggests it's designed as an extremely powerful Scanning Apparatus, specifically for detecting high-level Energy Signatures.



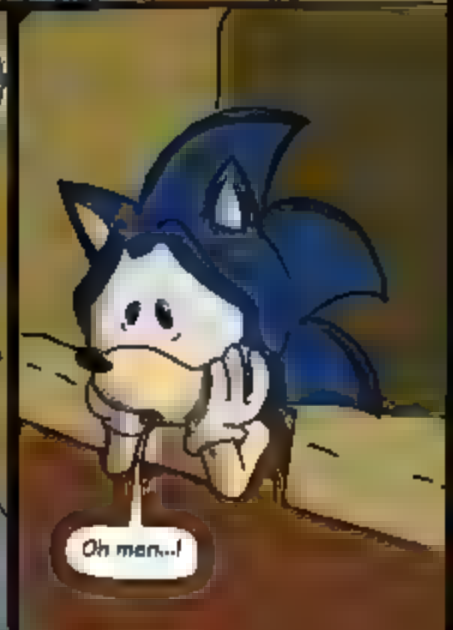
What, that's it?

No weapons, no big super death ray, just a mondo-eize scanner?

Big deal...



Don't forget, the Power Rings you use are highly concentrated sources of Energy; this machine would be able to track them easily



Oh man...!

...allowing it to move across the whole planet with its advanced scanning tech.

...it could track the Power Stone.

But that's not the worst news.

It's my personal theory, judging by the size and precise structure of the machine, that Snively intends to turn it into a sort of rocket ship once it's operational...

And if it can track Power Rings...

Then we gotta blind that eye before Snotley gets it in the sky!

Rotor, how long do you think it'll be before that device is completely operational?

I...I can't say for sure, the degree of construction was very complex, and from a distance it's hard to judge...

But if I had to guess, I'd say within the next 12 hours, factoring in possible testing procedures...

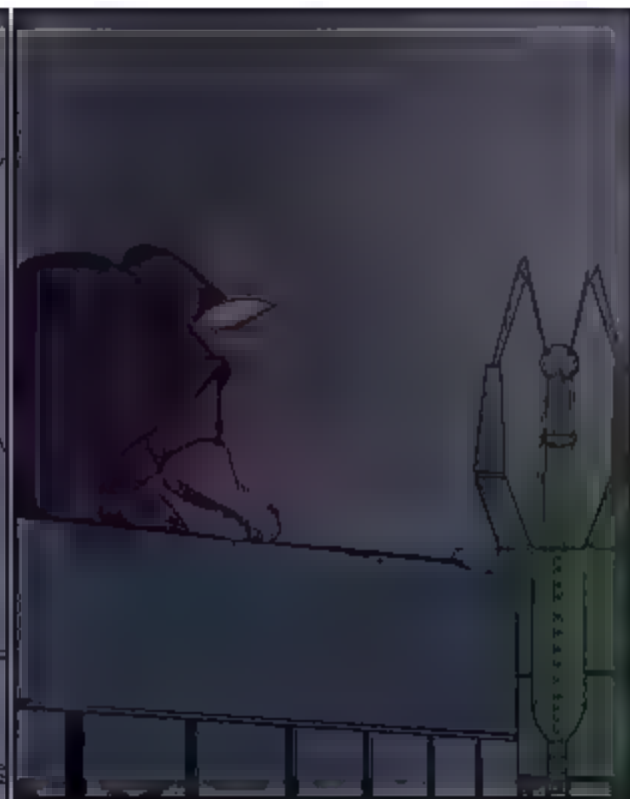
Any specific "moves" in mind, Sally-girl?

It would help if we knew more about how this machine functioned, but lacking time and more information, we'll have to be blunt.

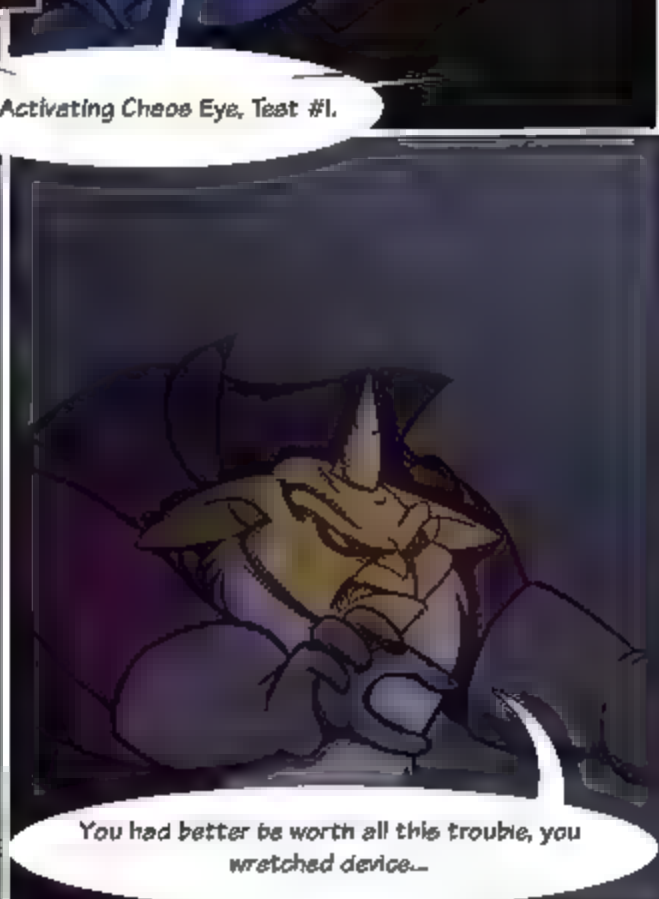
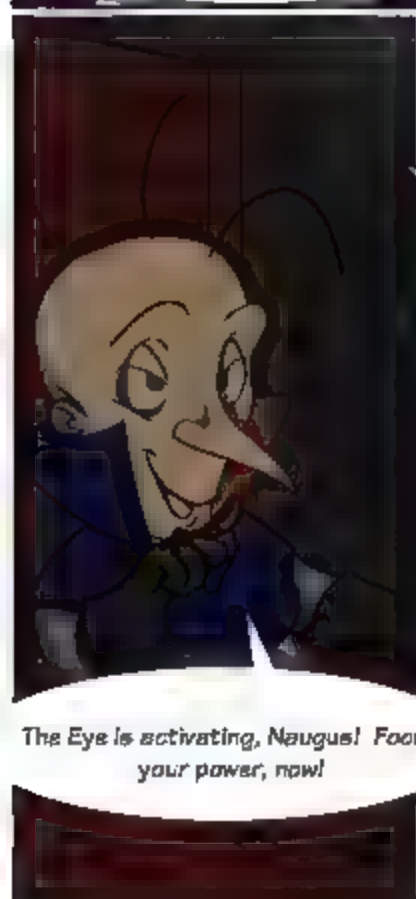
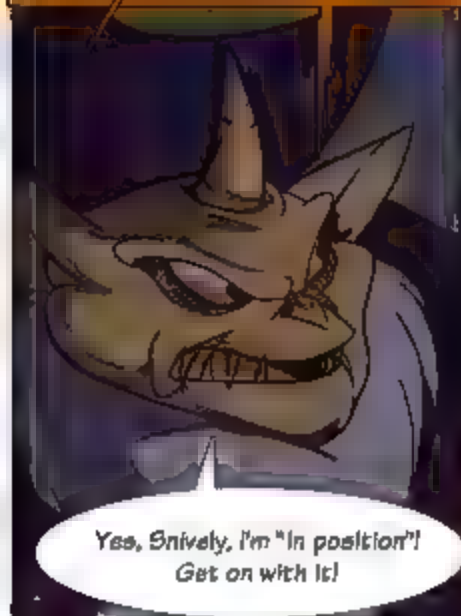
...Huh?

That doesn't give us a lot of time...we'll have to make a move tonight!

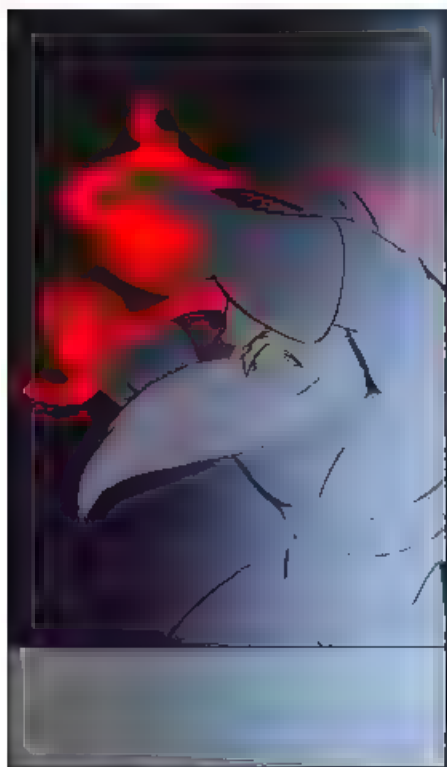
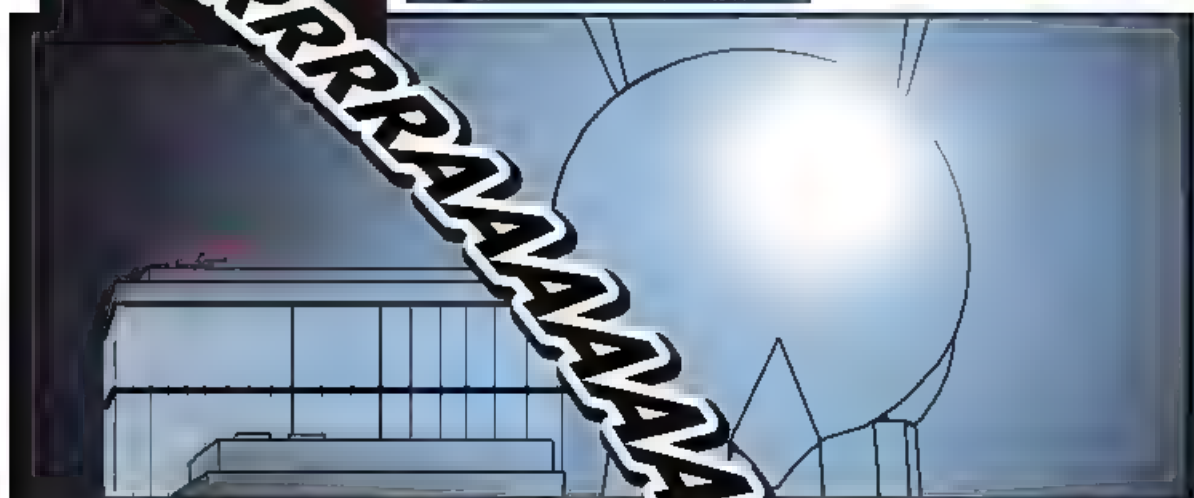
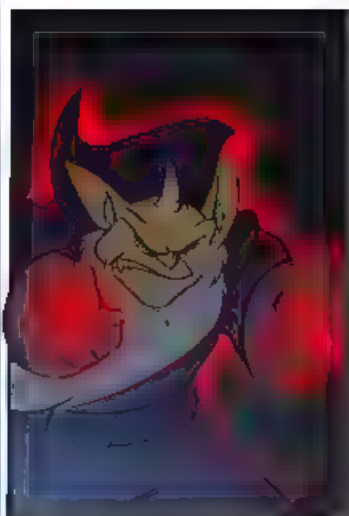
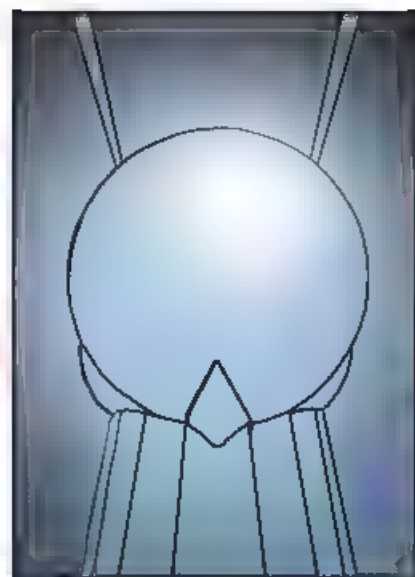
Hey, don't sweat it, Sal.

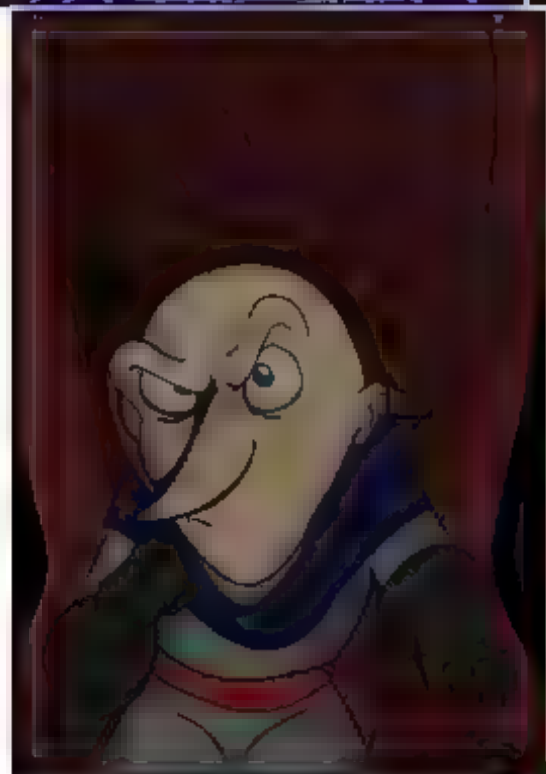
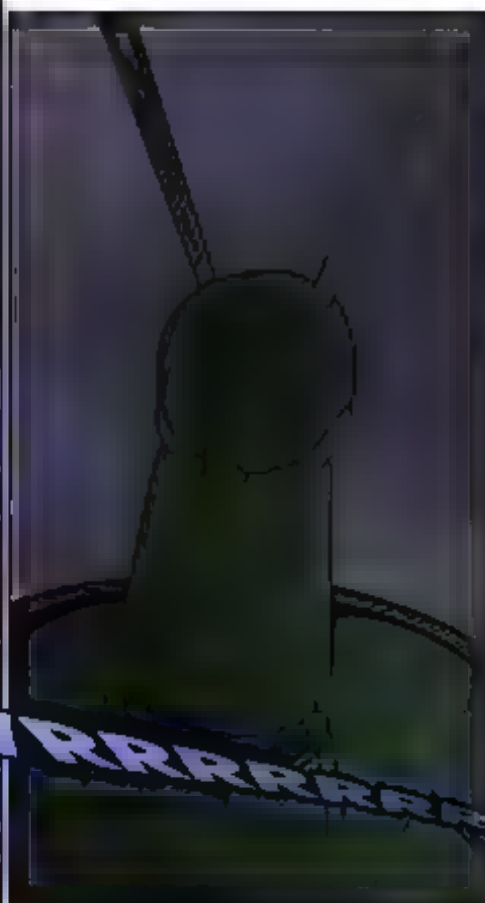
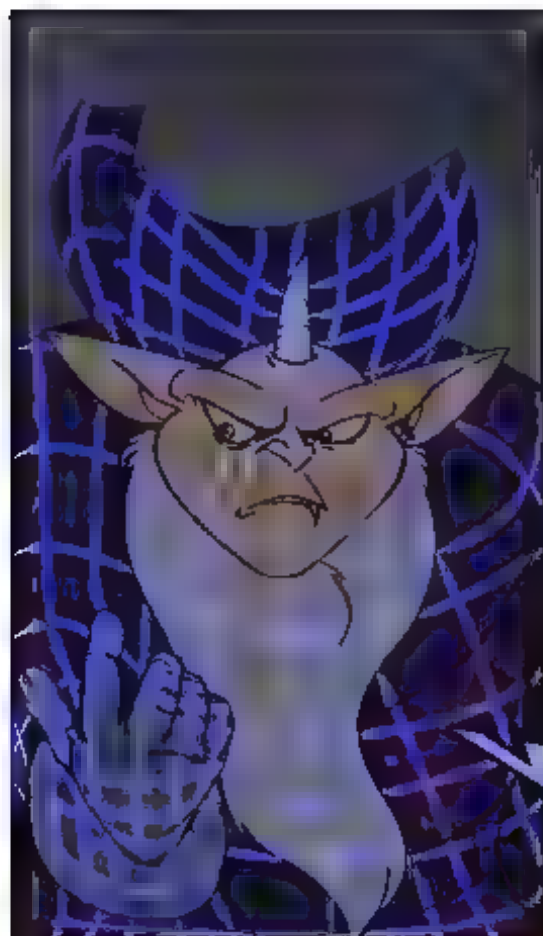


Naugus, this is Snively. Are you in position?

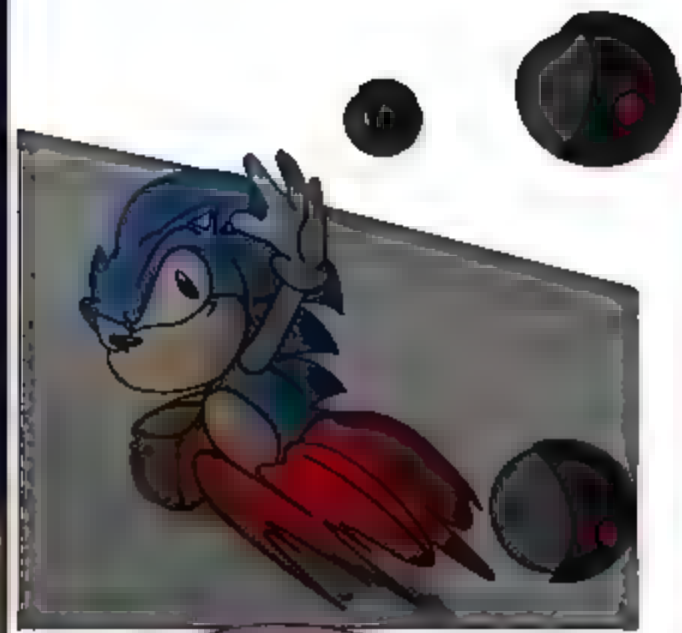
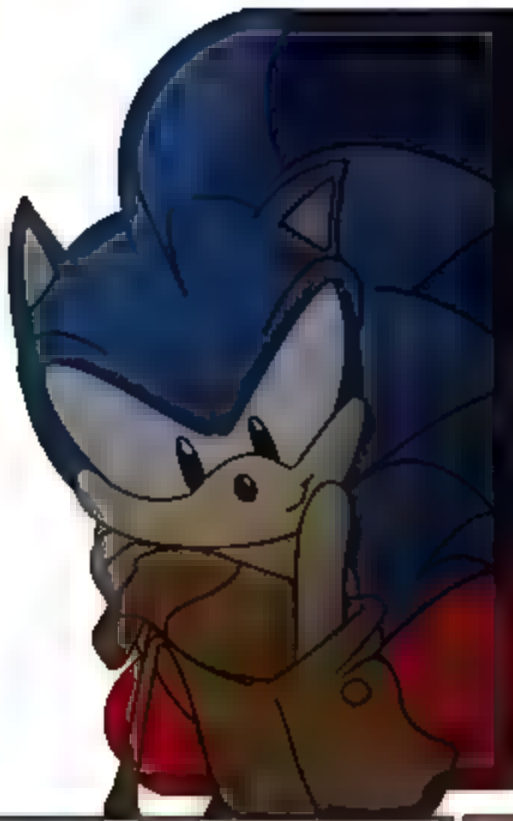


HRRRRRRRAAAAAAAAAAGGGGGGGGGGGHHHHH



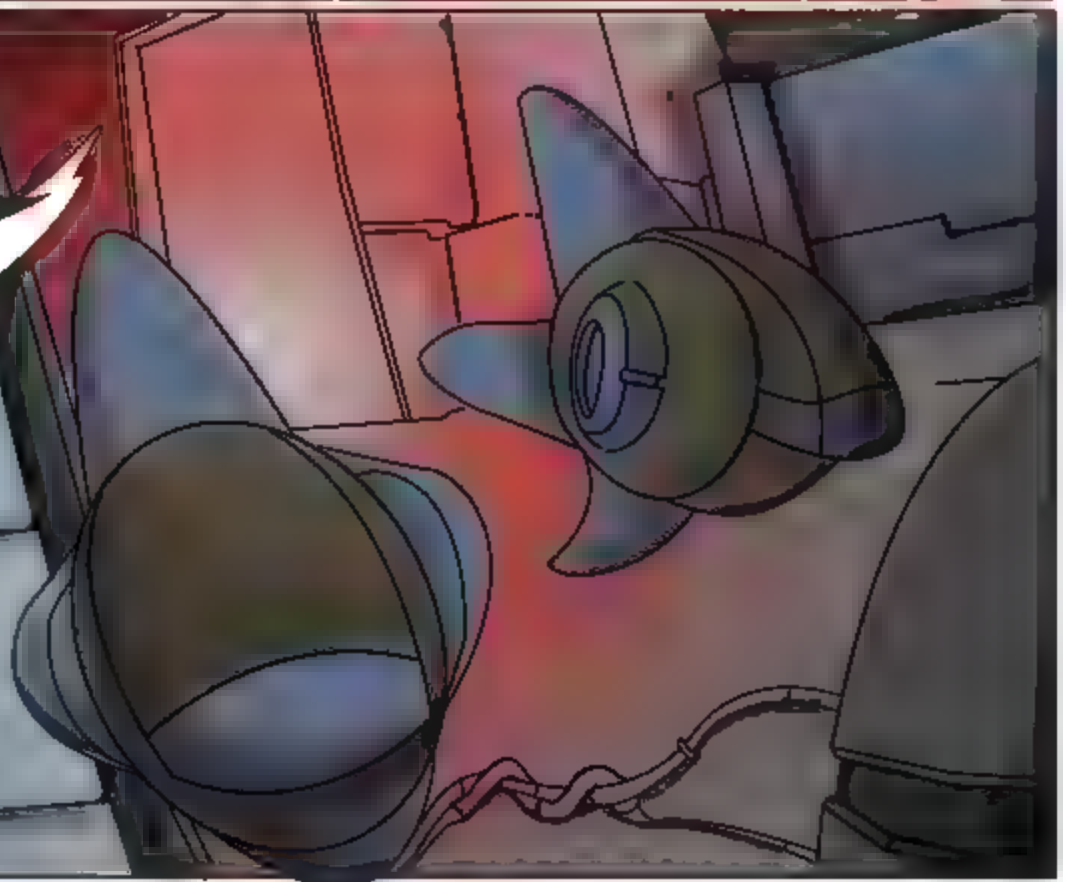




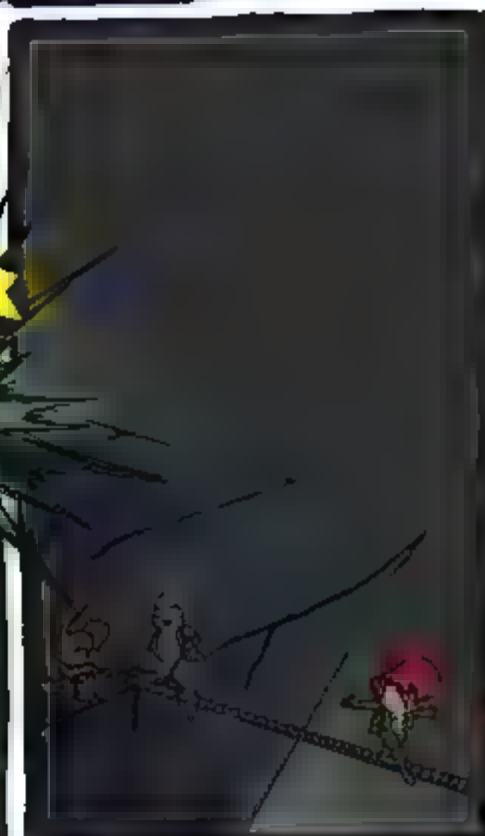
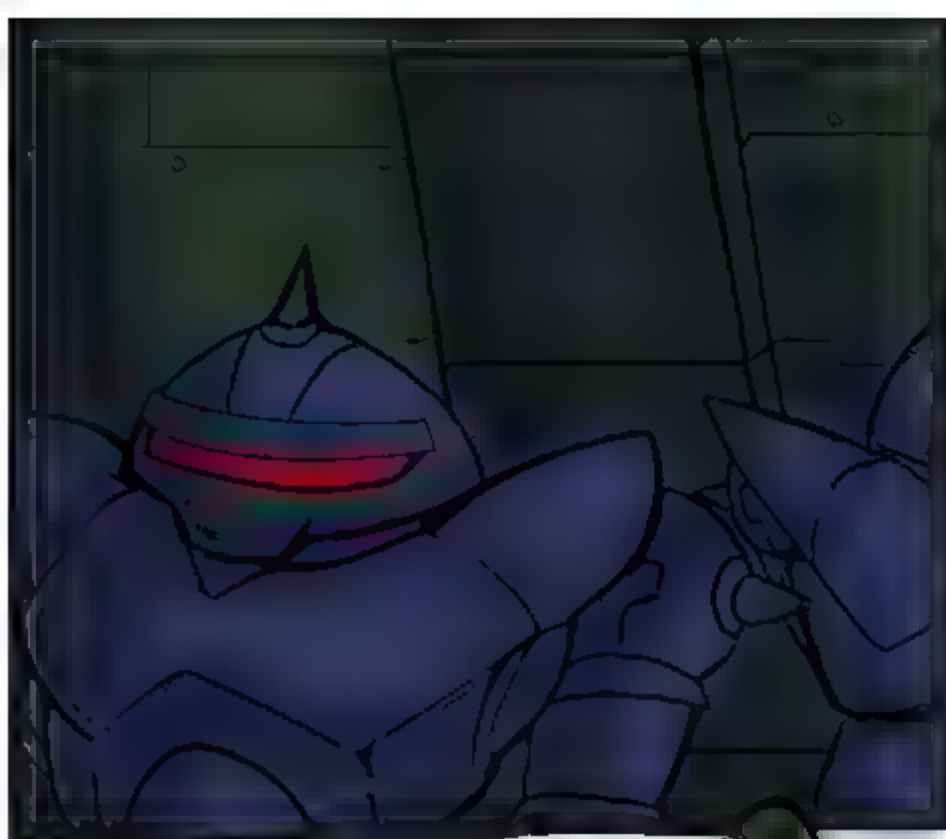


Time for a
l'l sound 'n'
fury!

PRIORITY ONE!
HEDGEHOG
ALERT! CAPTURE
AND ROBOTICIZE!

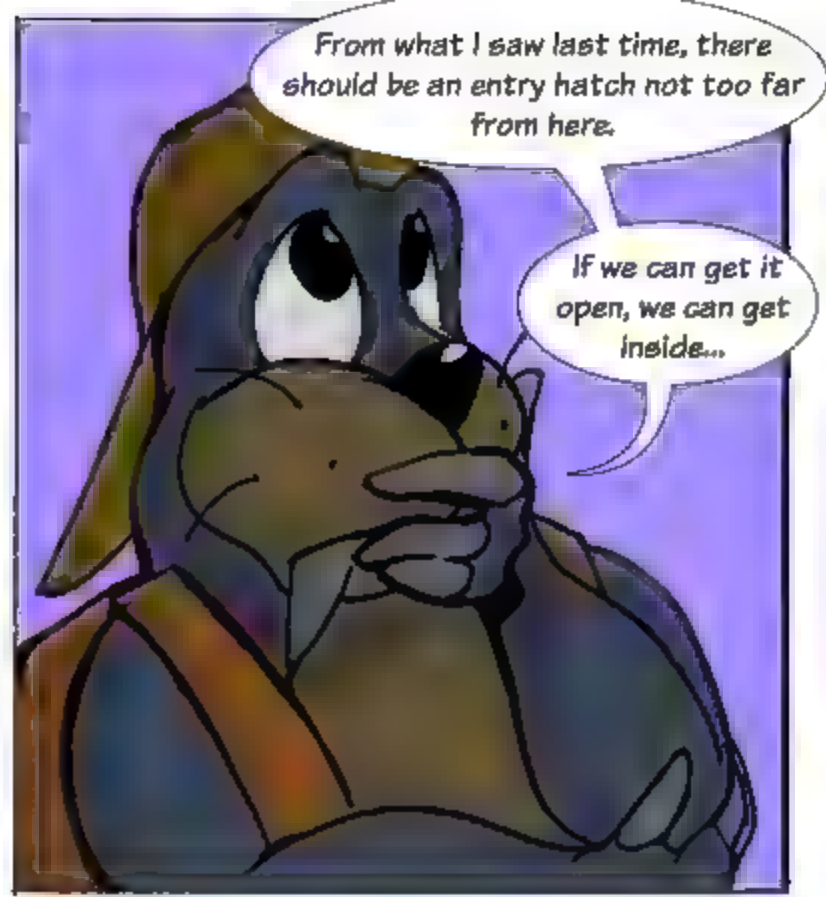
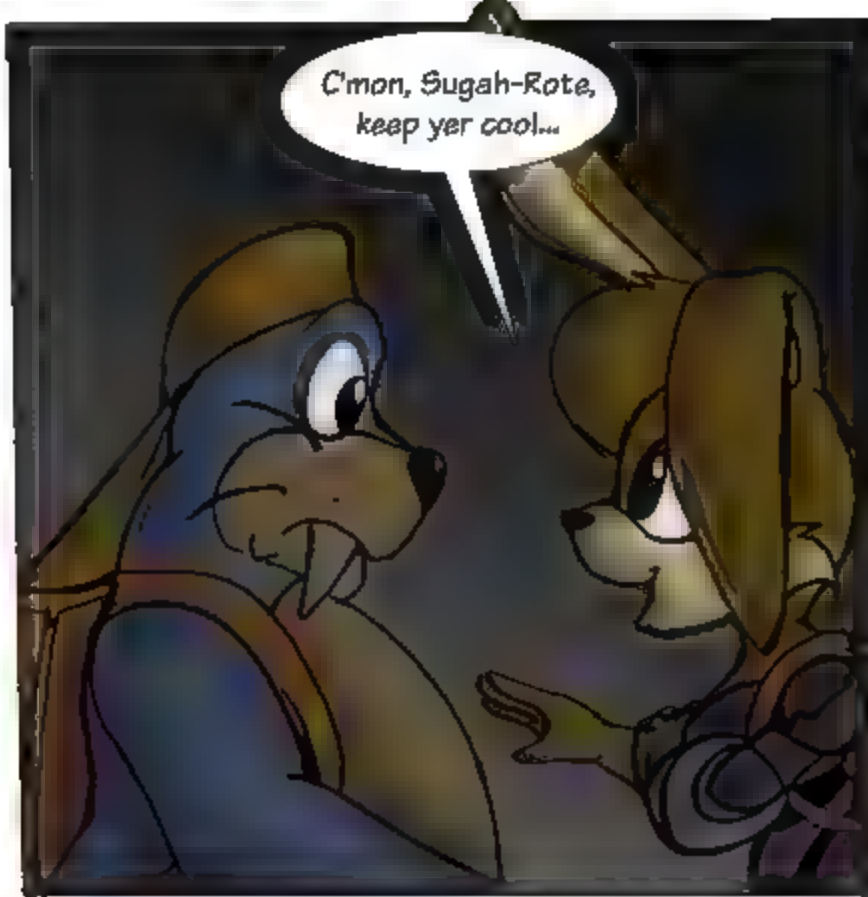


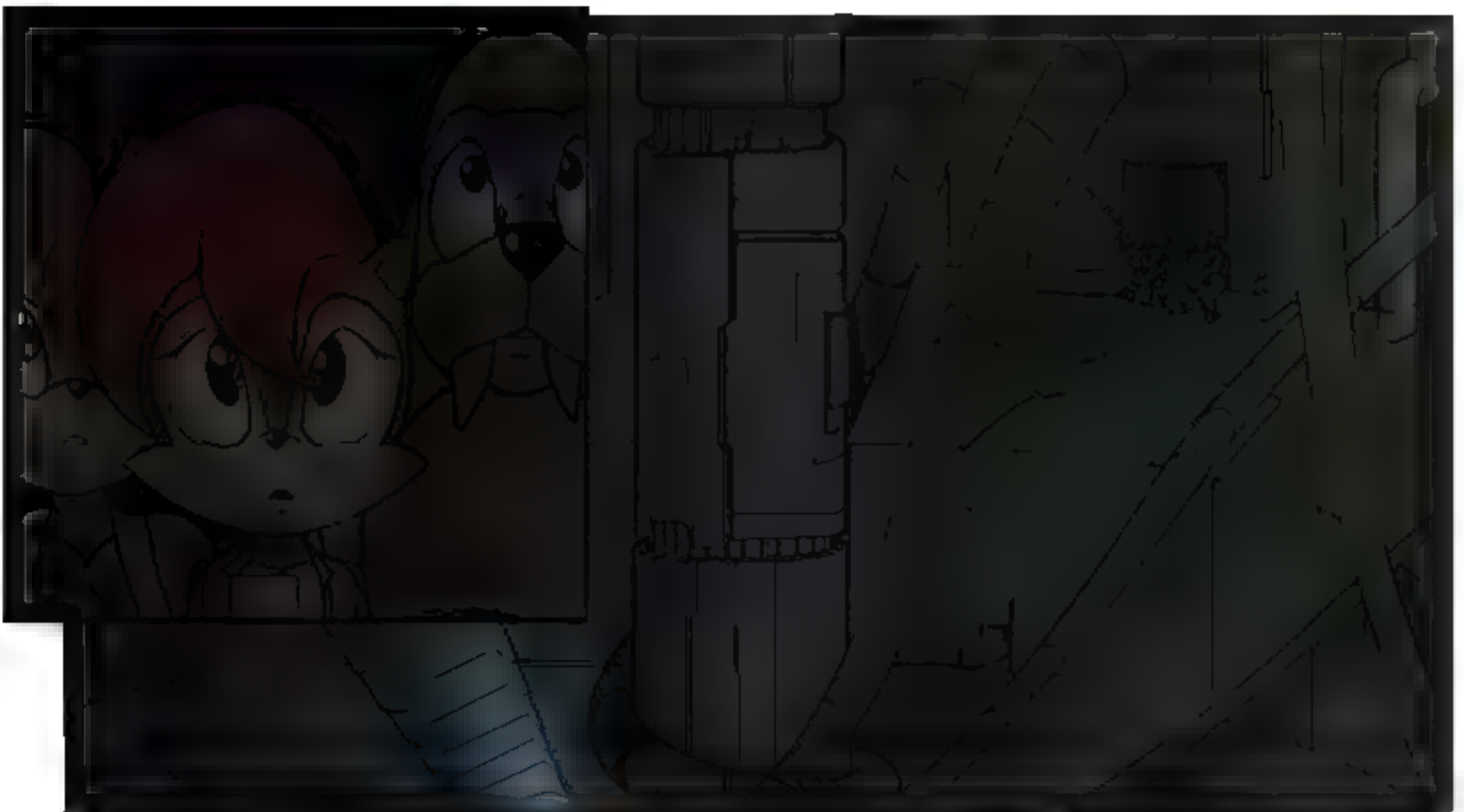
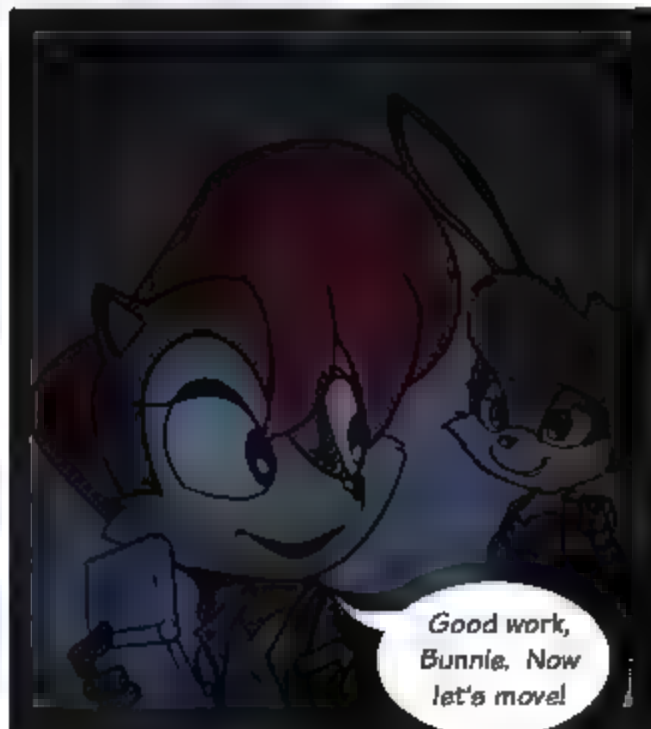
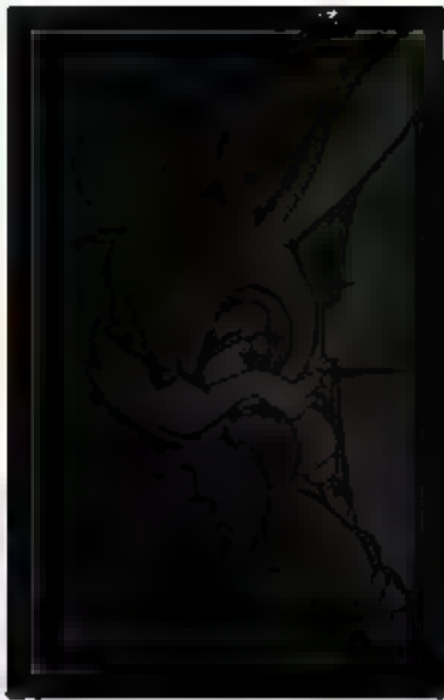




I said I thought there might be a way in around here.

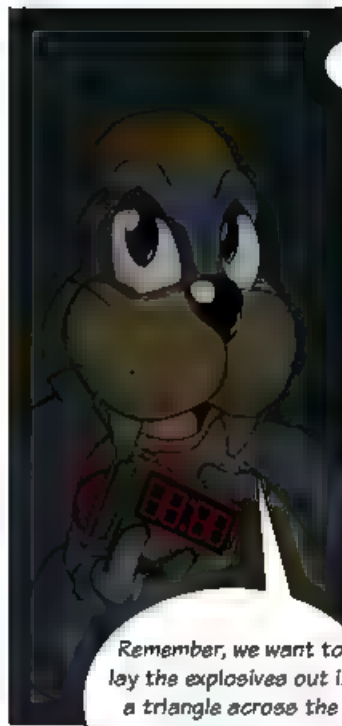
OK, Rotor, you said there was a way in around here.







We won't have much time before Snivley realizes we're in here, so let's get the charges set fast!

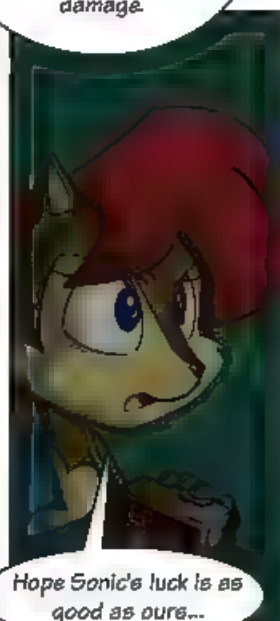
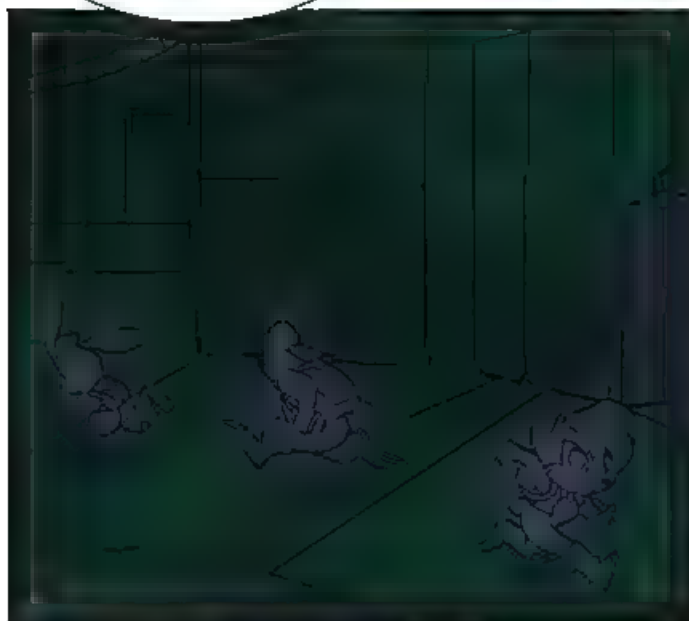


Remember, we want to lay the explosives out in a triangle across the wall to do the most damage.



I'll take the left side, Bunnie should take the right, and Sally will take the back.

Got it, Sugah-Rote!

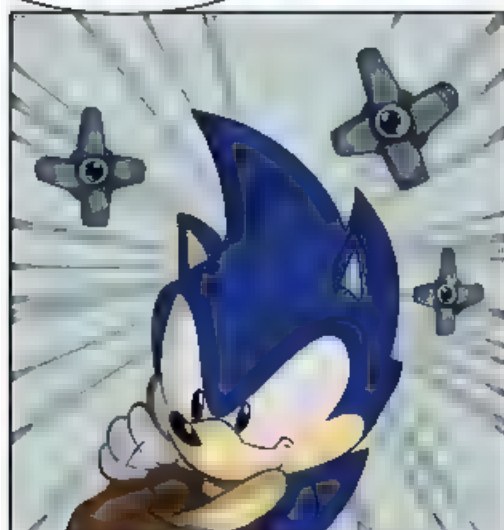


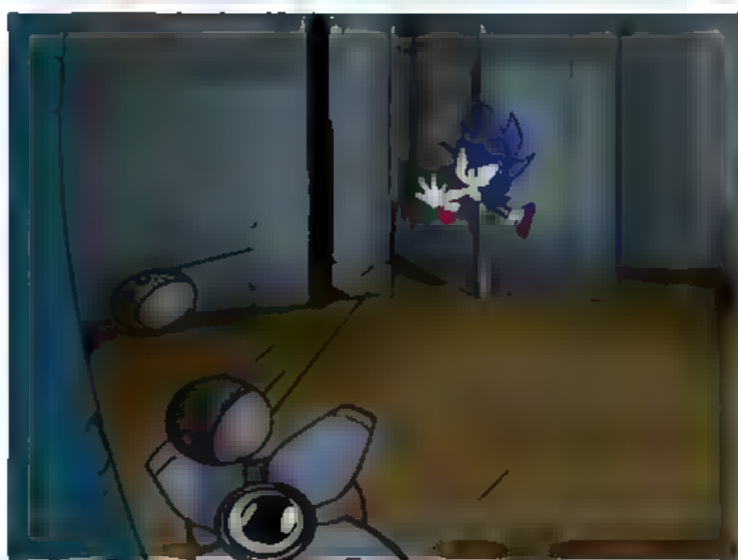
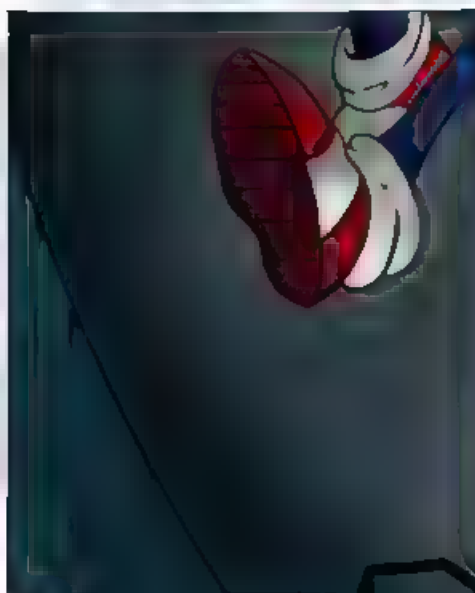
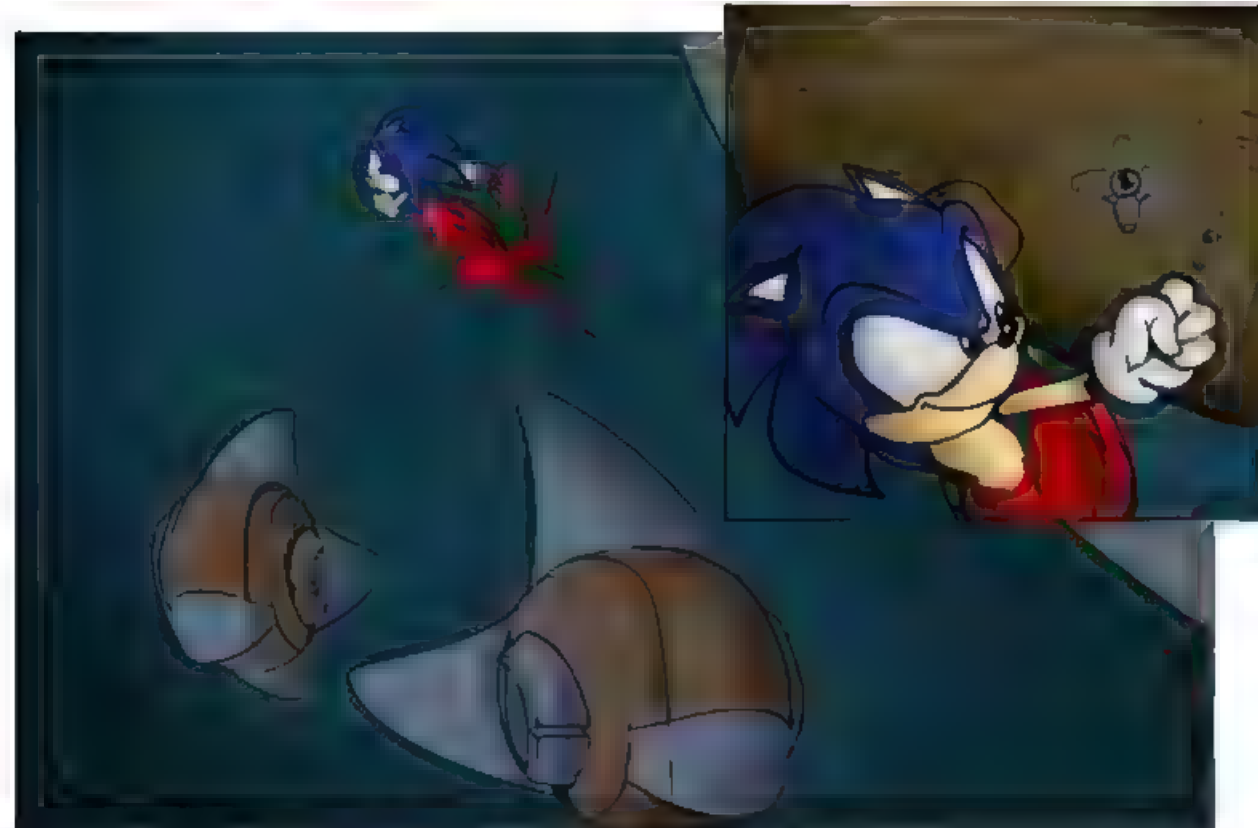
Hope Sonic's luck is as good as ours...



Yeesh!

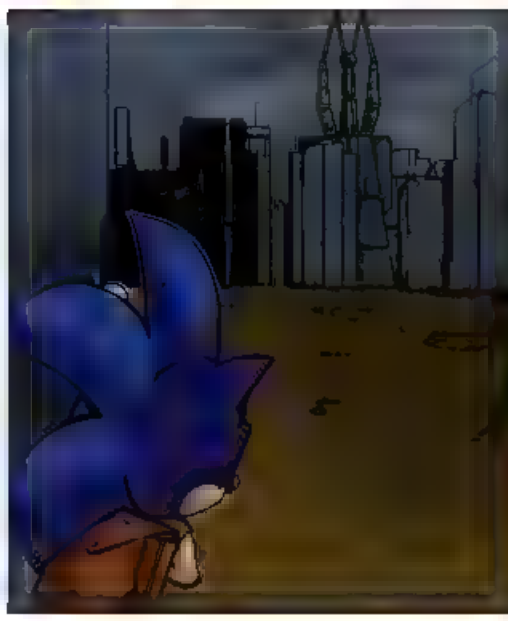
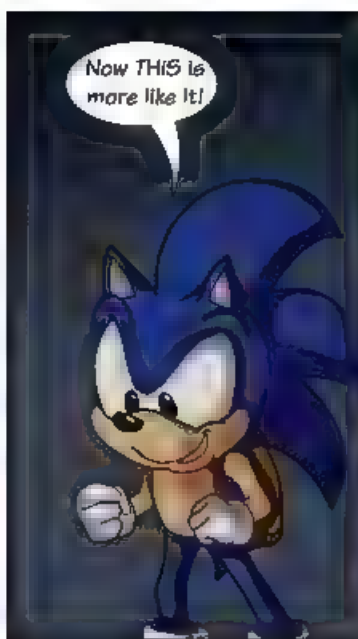
Remind me to never ask you guys for directions again!

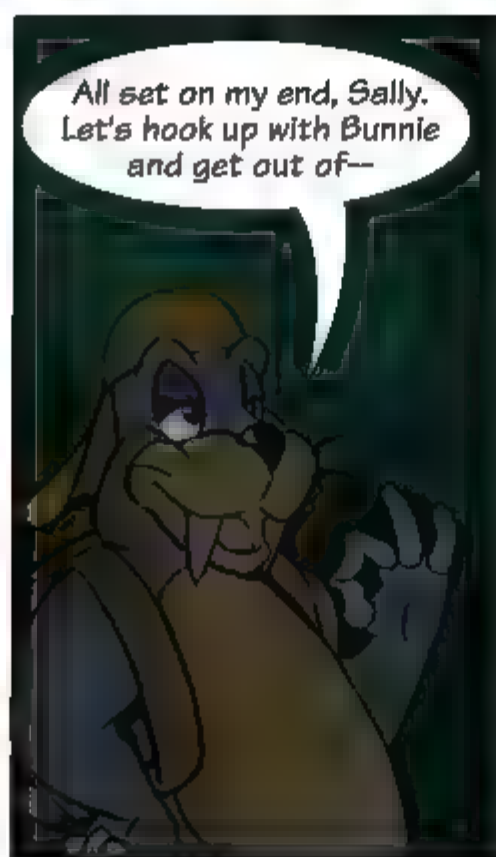
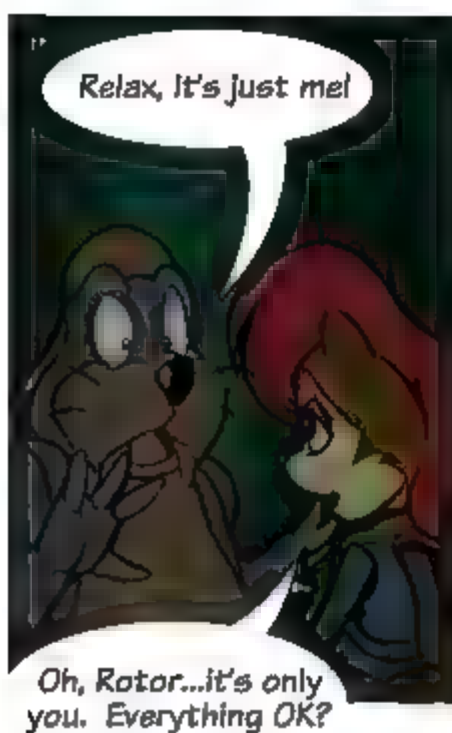
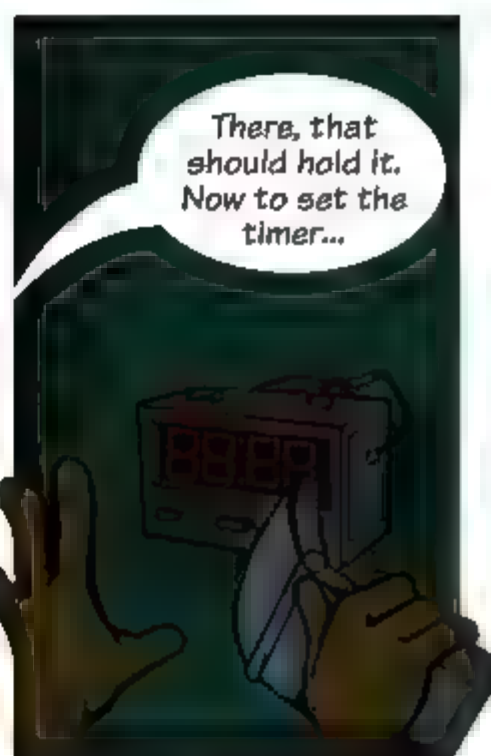
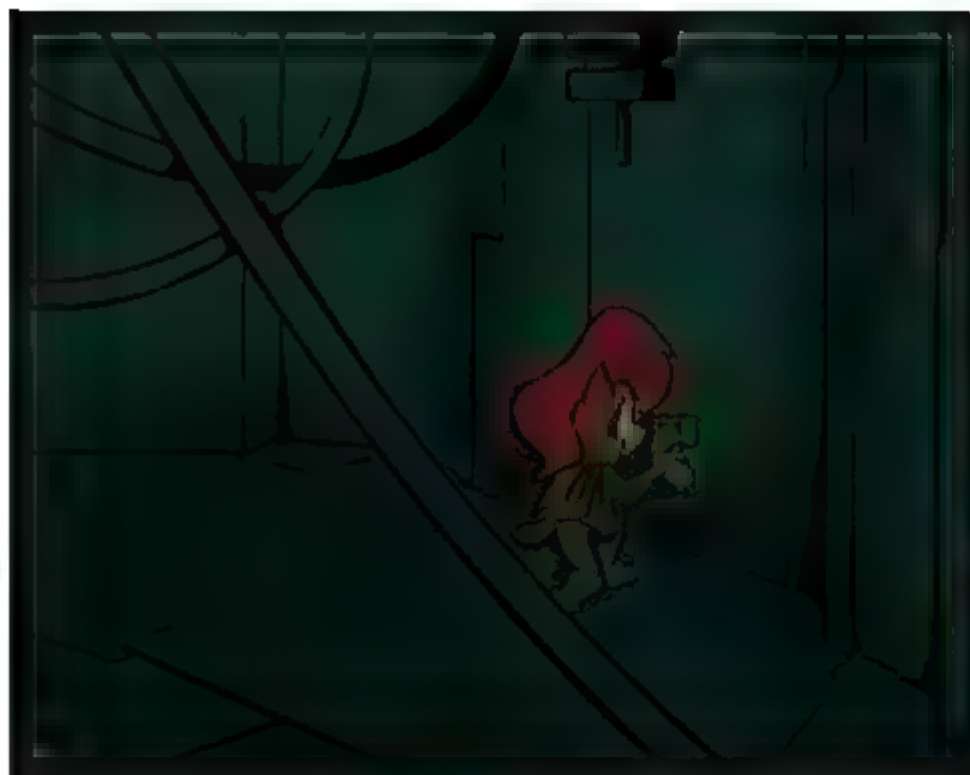




BOOM

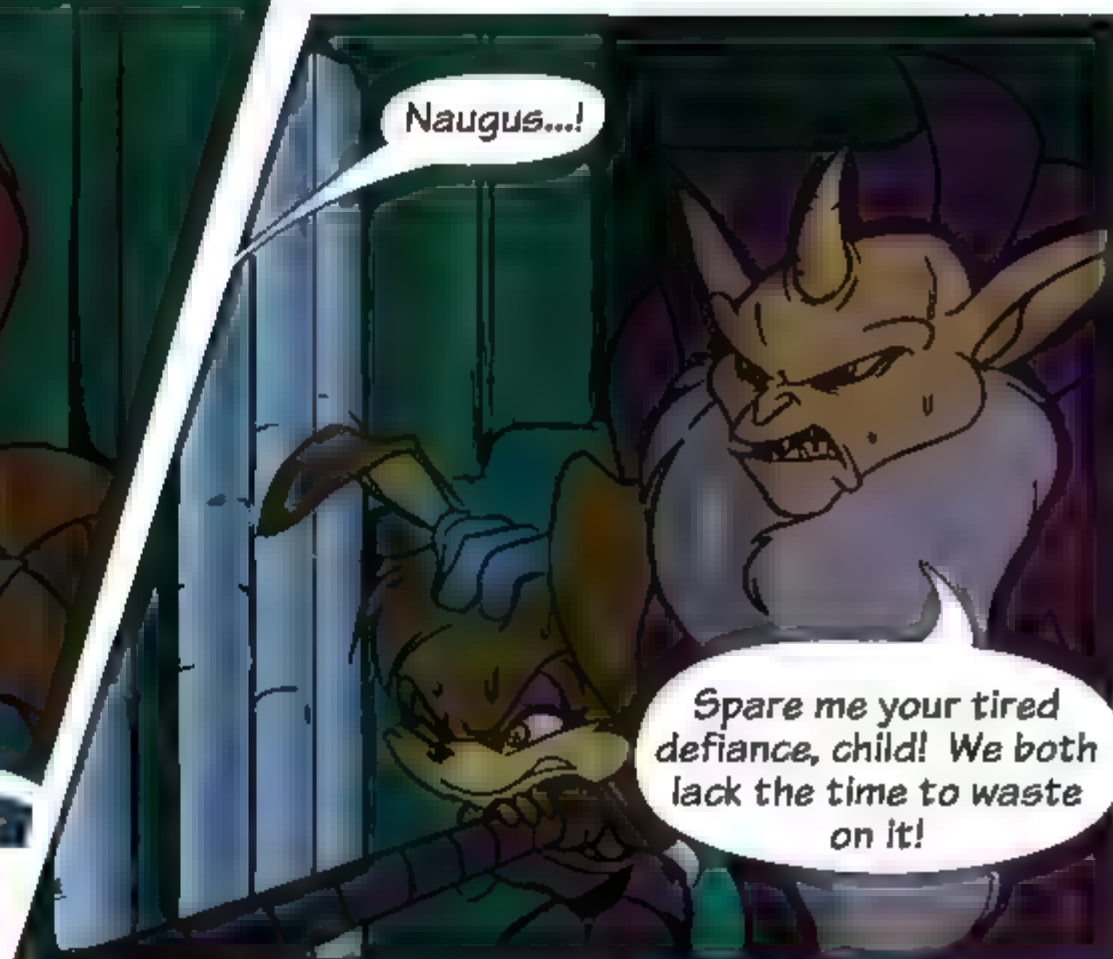






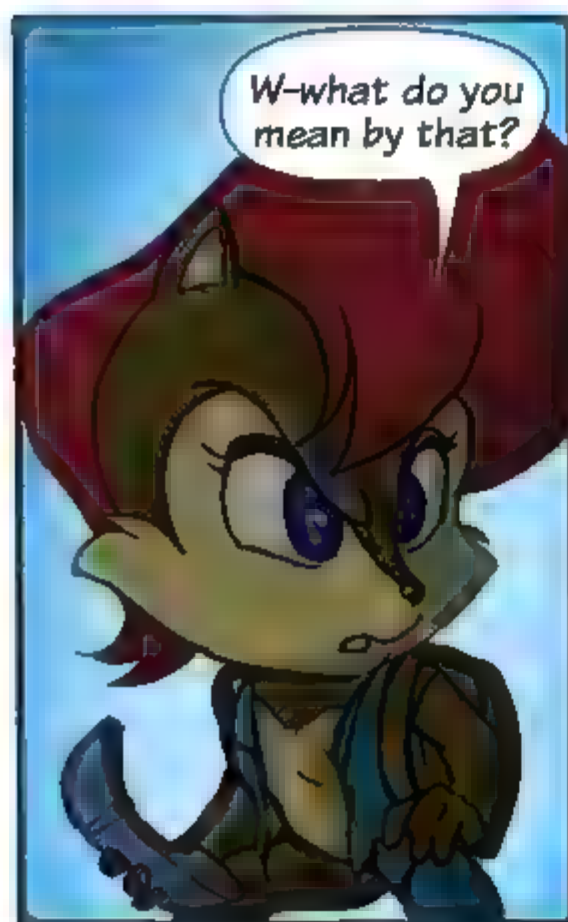


Now, now,
Princess...what
is your hurry?

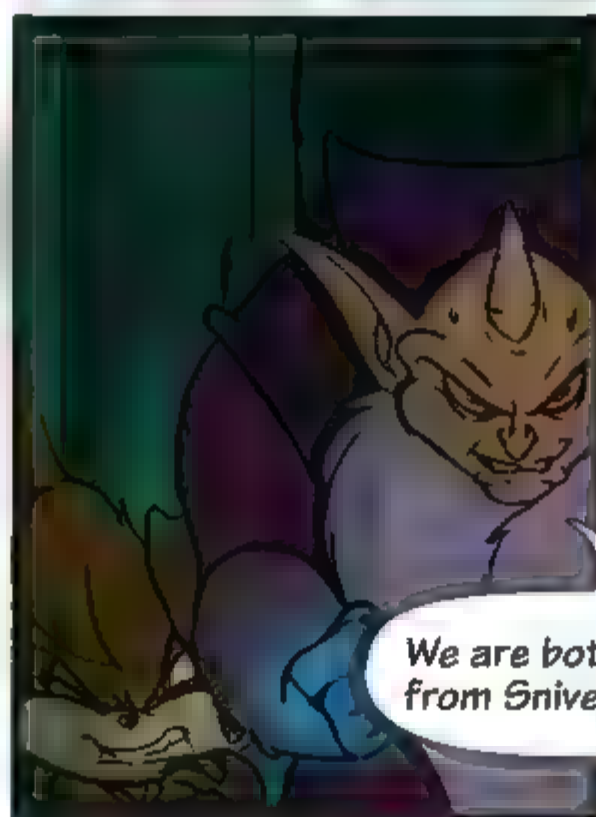


Naugus...!

Spare me your tired
defiance, child! We both
lack the time to waste
on it!



W-what do you
mean by that?



We are both hiding
from Snively here...



Why are you hiding
from him? Last I
checked, you two
were allies...



Please. ME, ally to that...
wretch? No... he is merely
a means to an end and
nothing more.

However, the benefit
of our temporary
partnership is falling
increasingly into
question...

AARRG!

Huh?

S...Sally-girl...?

SHHH!

You're safe now,
Bunnie, but the best
way to stay safe is
to stay silent.


Insufferable vermin!
My patience—

—IS AT AN END!!!


Foolish cowards... Scurry
all you want, but I know
you're still in here **SOME-
WHERE...**

...and no matter
WHERE you're
hiding...


—I know you
can hear me.



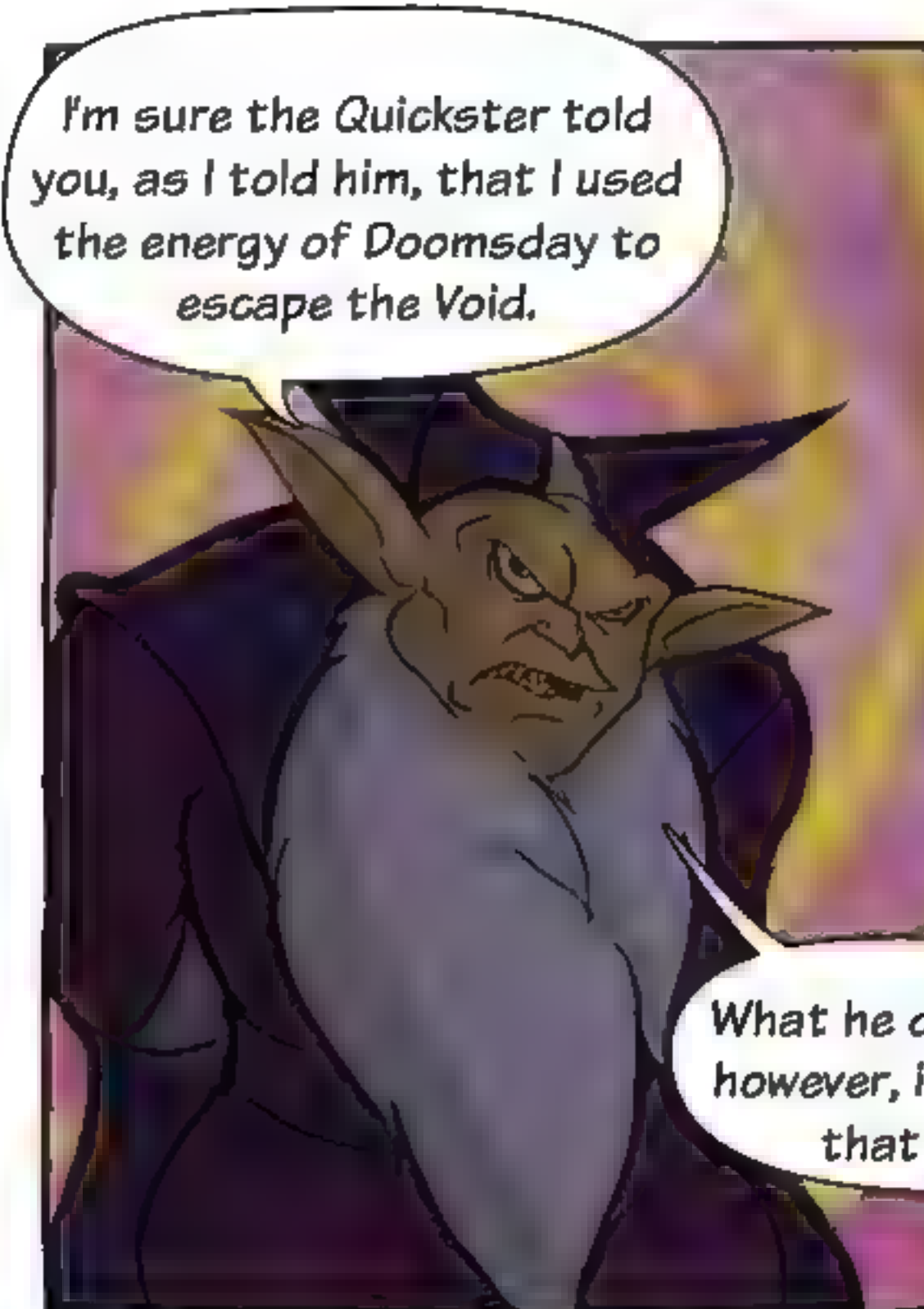
So listen carefully
and perhaps you
will re-consider my
offer.



It concerns the
fate of the King.




After all...




I'm sure the Quickster told
you, as I told him, that I used
the energy of Doomsday to
escape the Void.

What he did not know,
however, is how I used
that energy.



My studies revealed that using the energy tunnel
which connects the Void to Mobius to escape is
what triggered the crystallization caused by pro-
longed exposure to the Void's power.

I crafted a special spell that would allow
me to target one person on Mobius and
switch places with them.



I knew exactly
who to pick.

After all, it was Robotnik who trapped me in the Void to begin with. It was only fitting he take my place and set me free, all in one fell swoop.

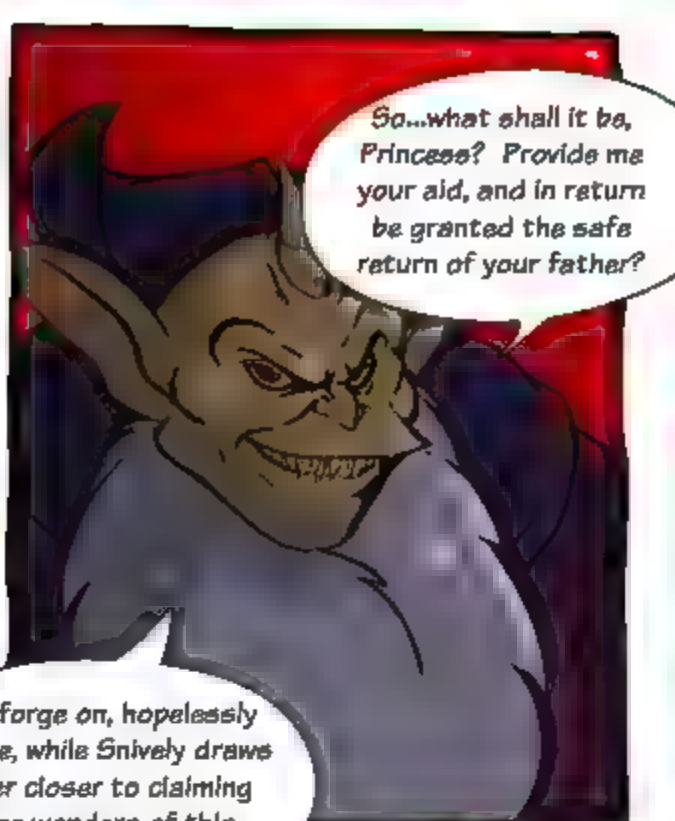
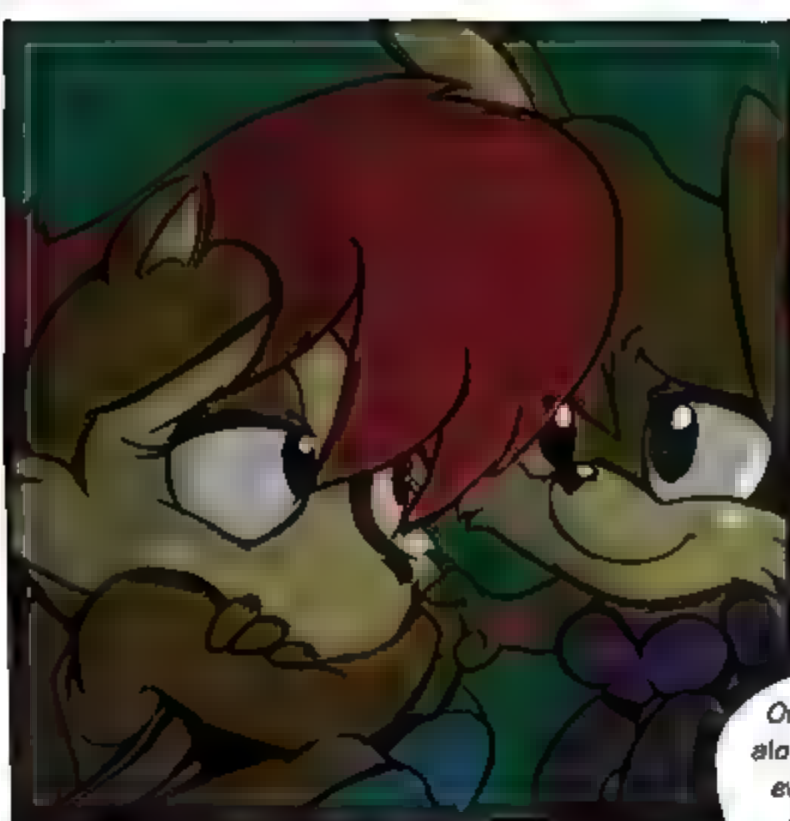
My initial attempts to target him failed, of course, for I lacked the power to see my spell through fully. Once my chance arose, however, I took it with pleasure.

Do you understand now, Princess?

Your precious father is now trapped with his most hated enemy...

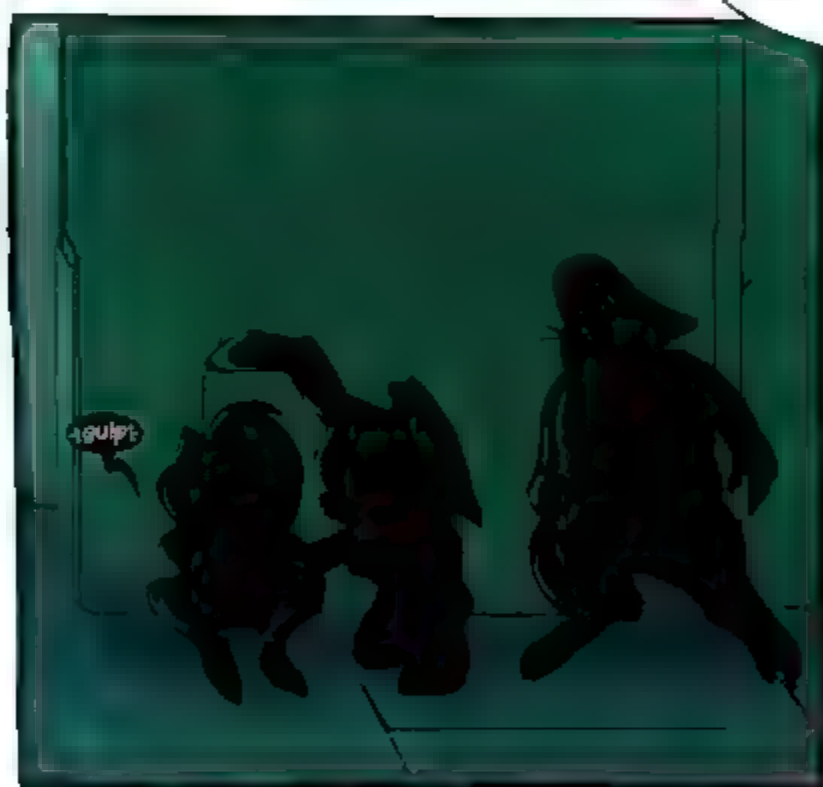
--And only I have the power to free him.

And free him I will. If you help me achieve my own goals first!

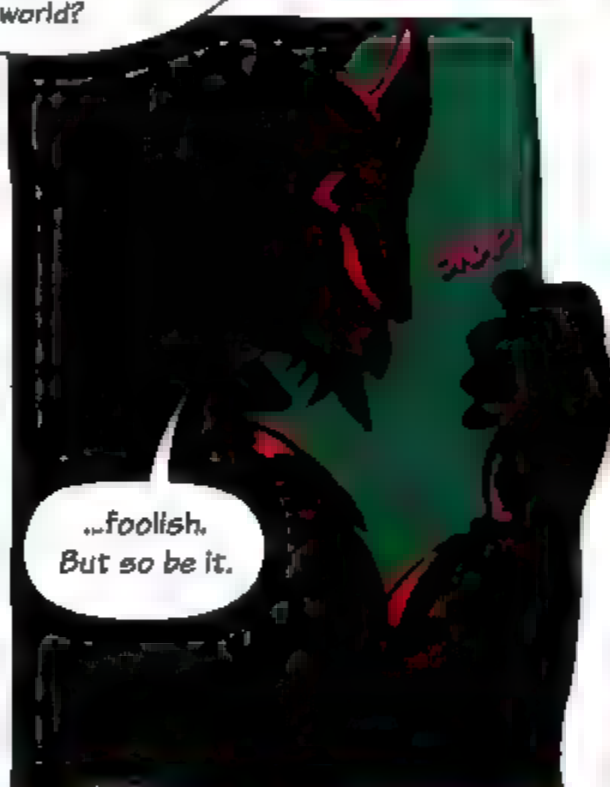


So...what shall it be, Princess? Provide me your aid, and in return be granted the safe return of your father?

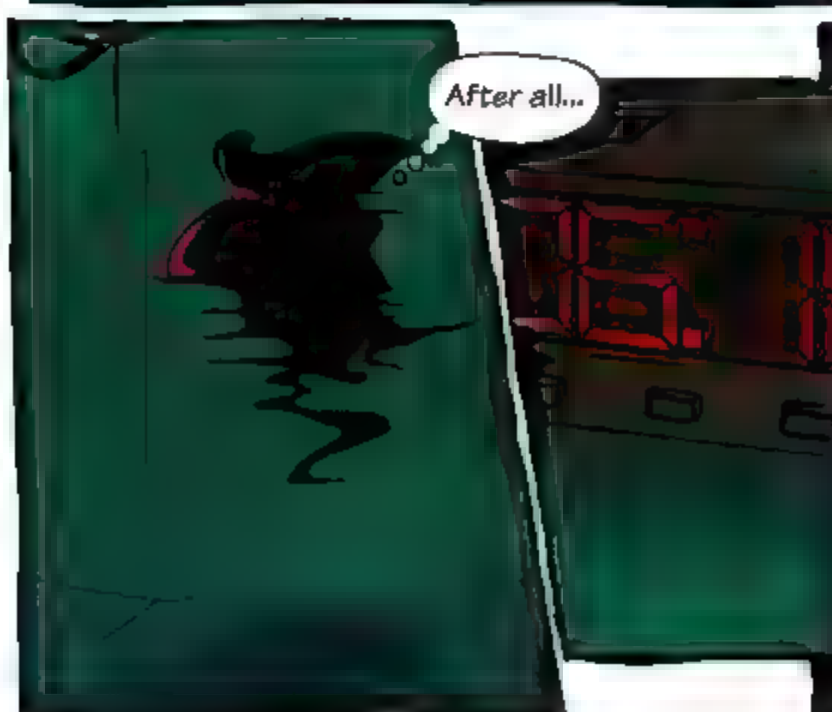
Or forge on, hopelessly alone, while Snively draws ever closer to claiming the wonders of this world?



gulp!



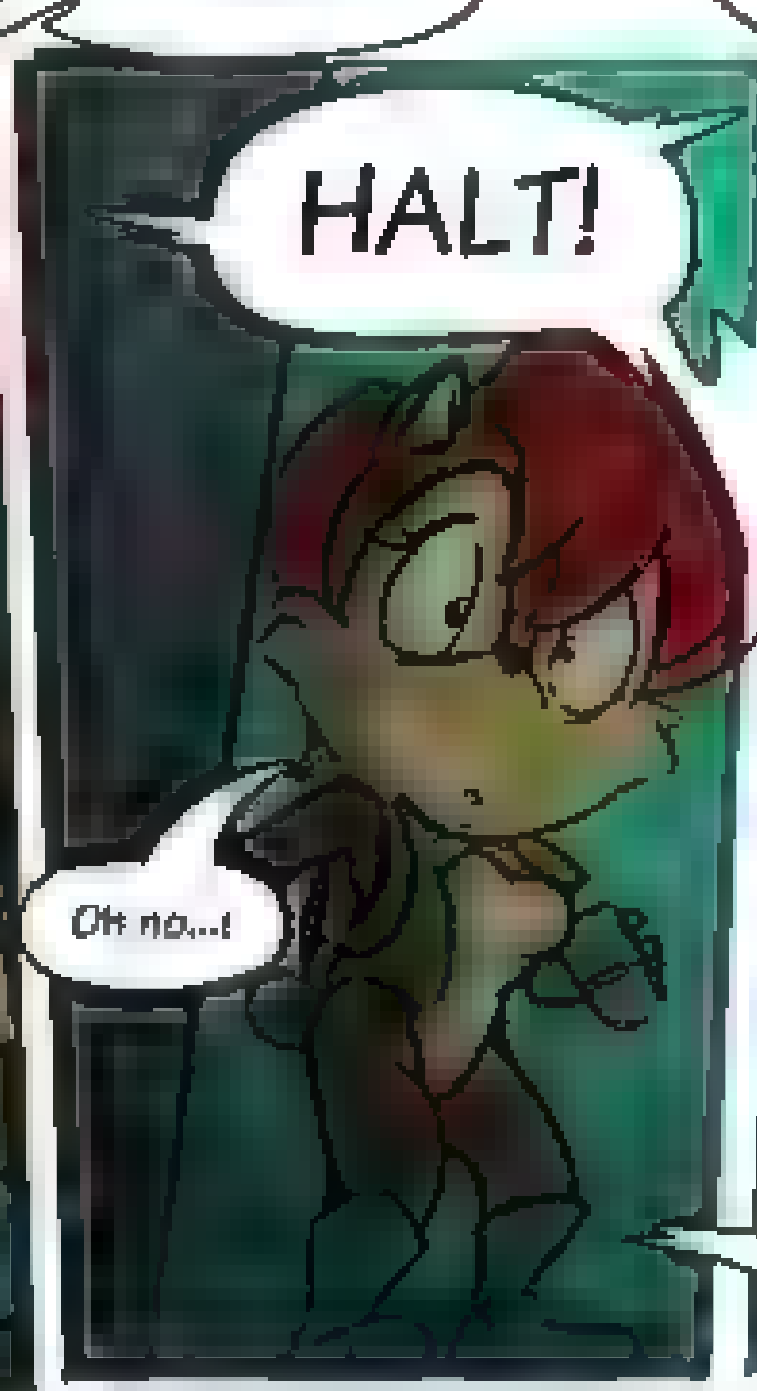
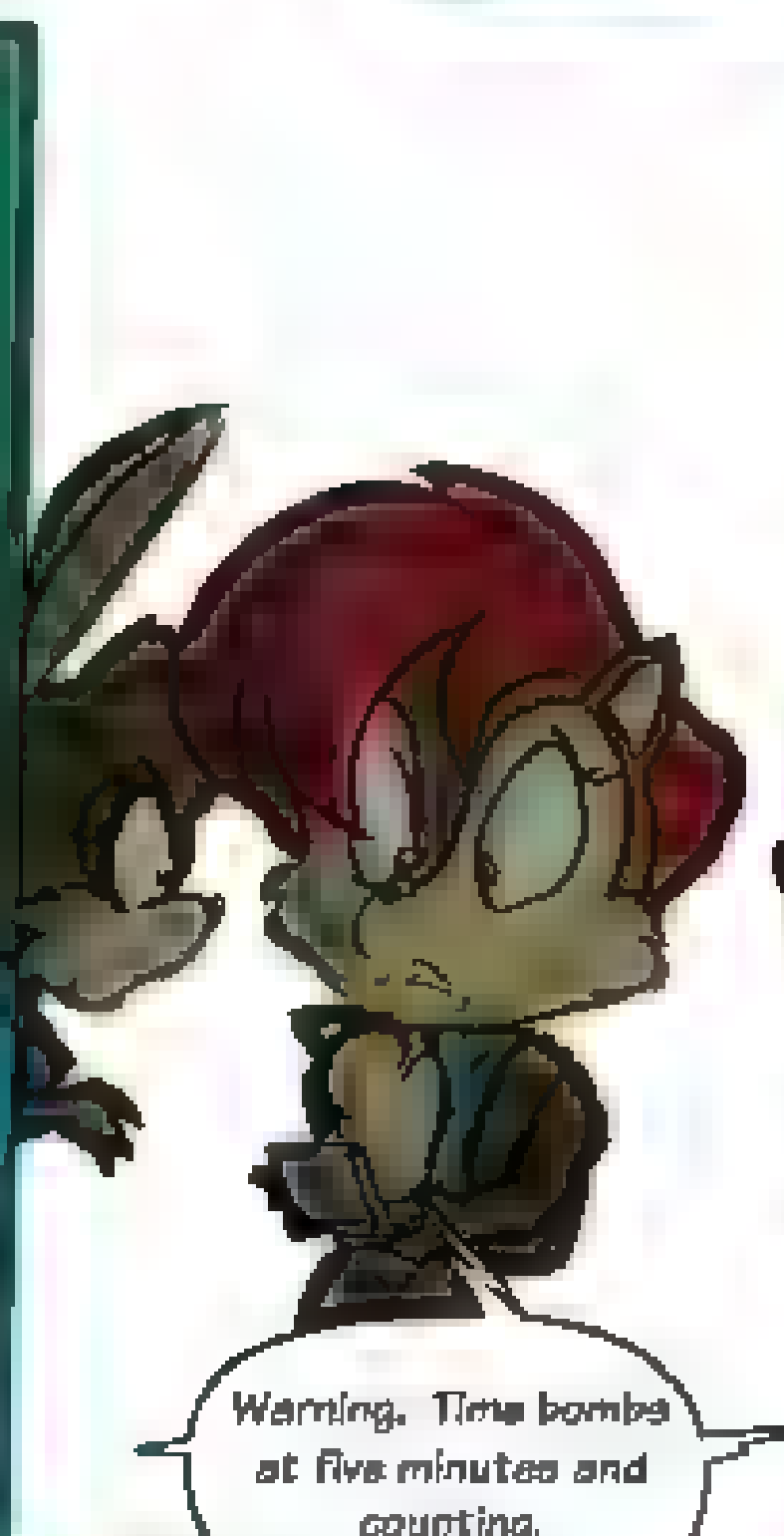
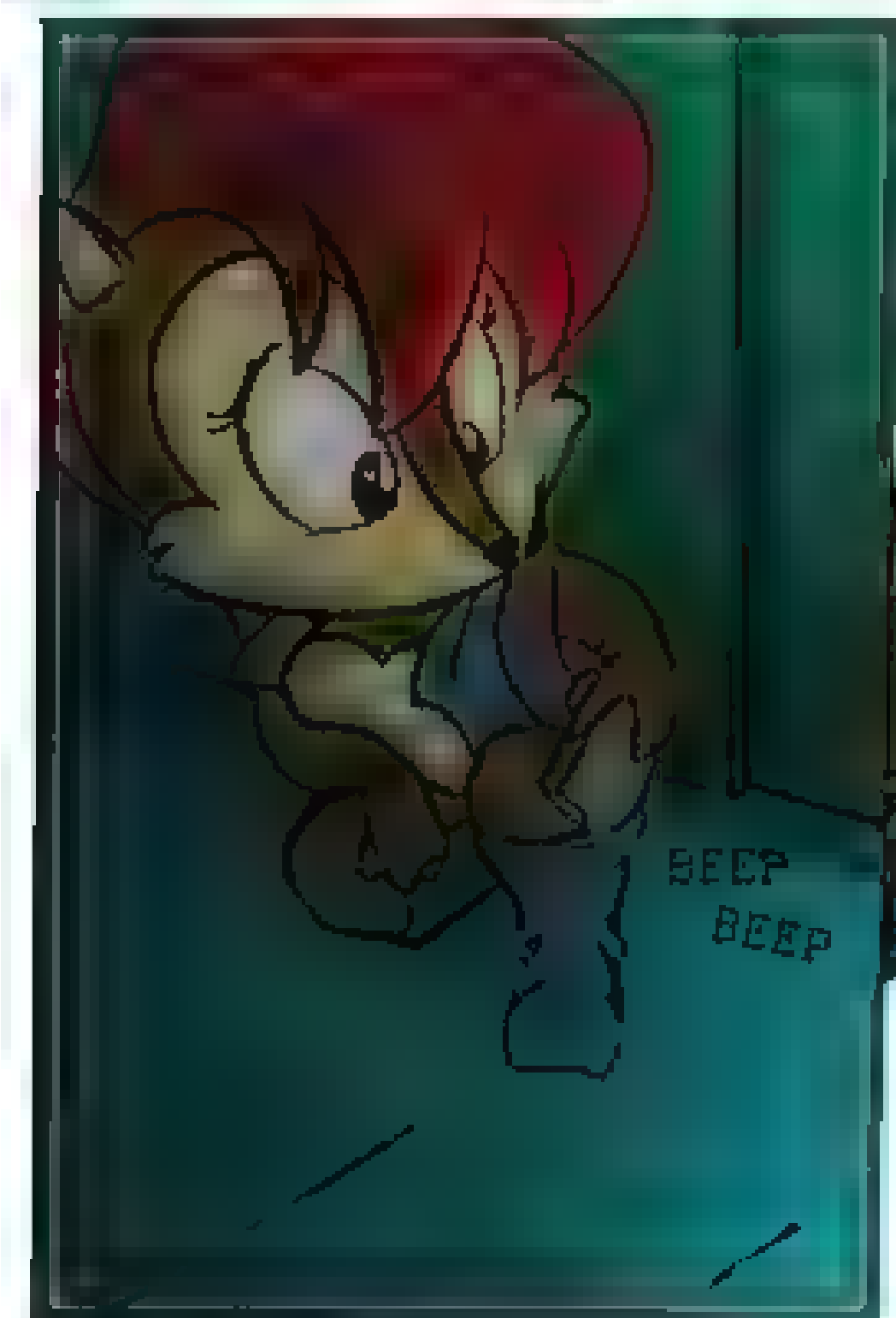
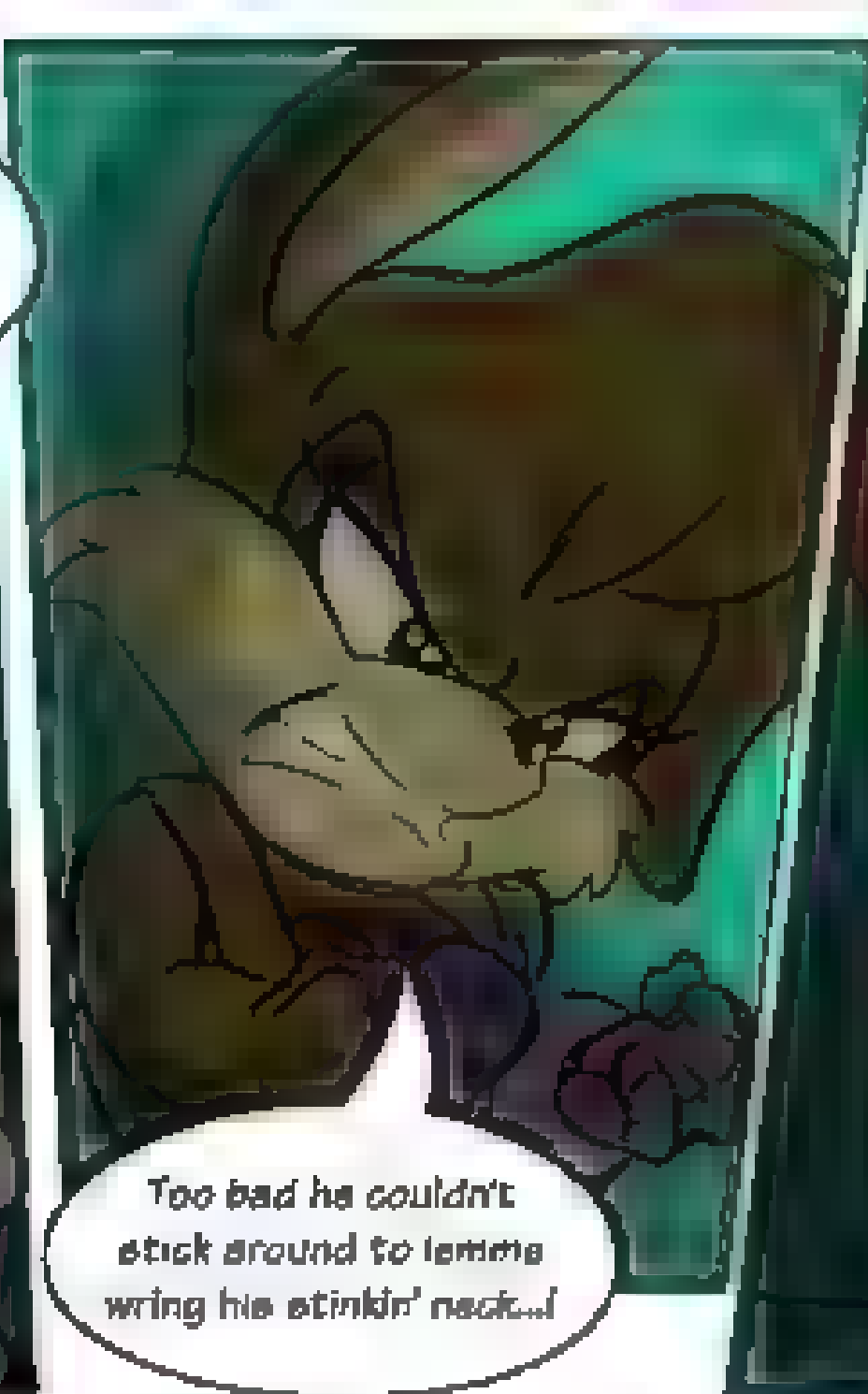
...foolish.
But so be it.

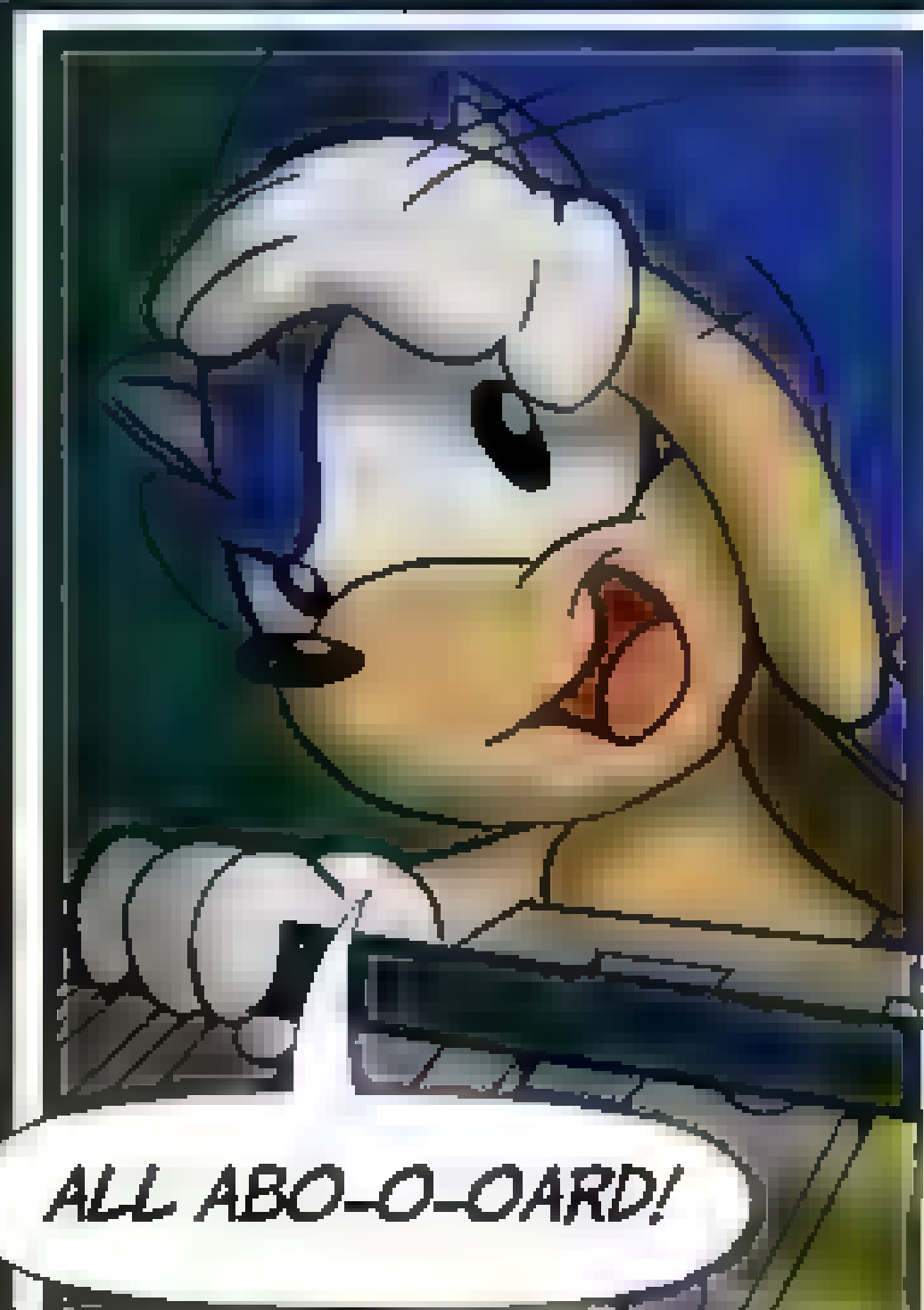
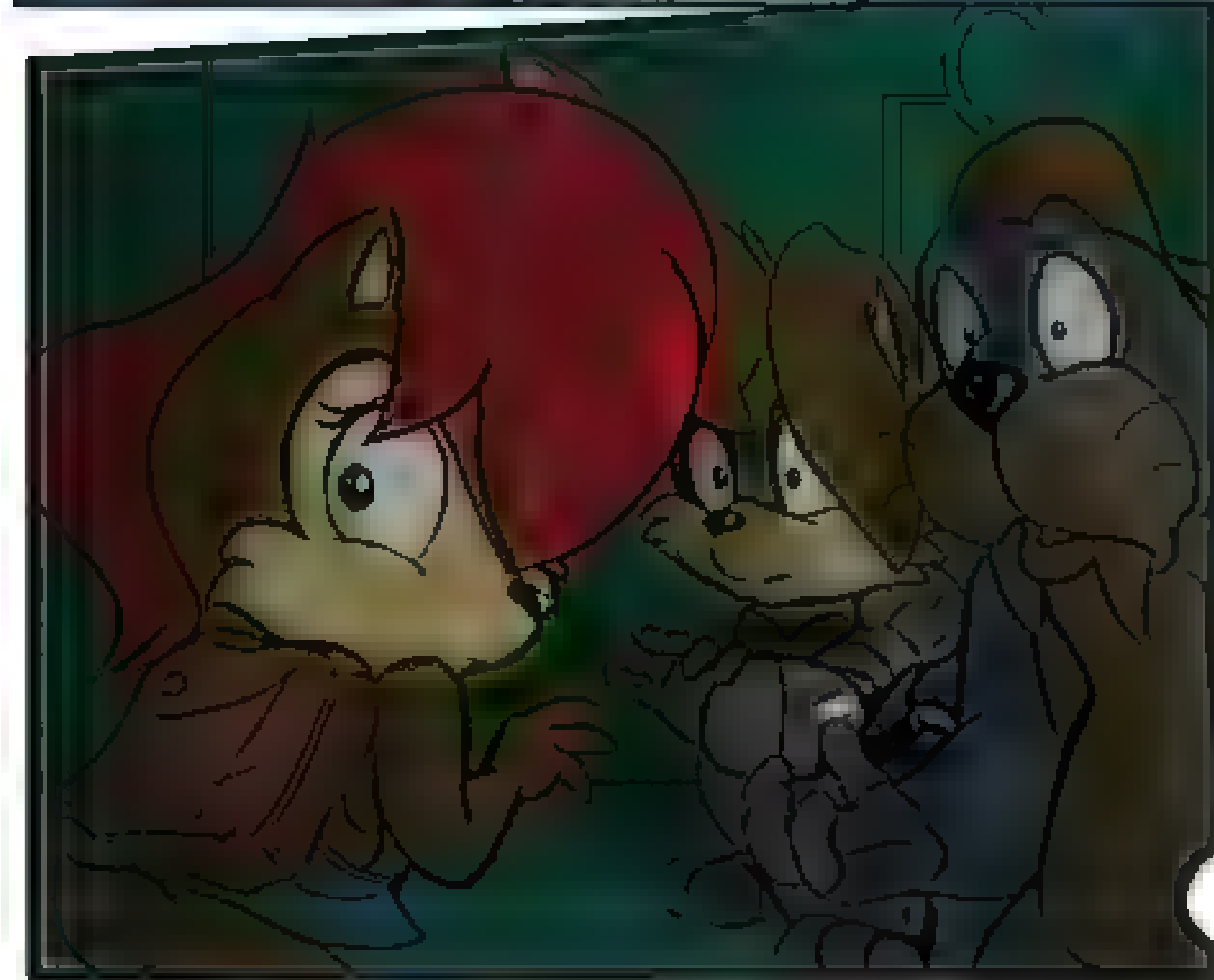
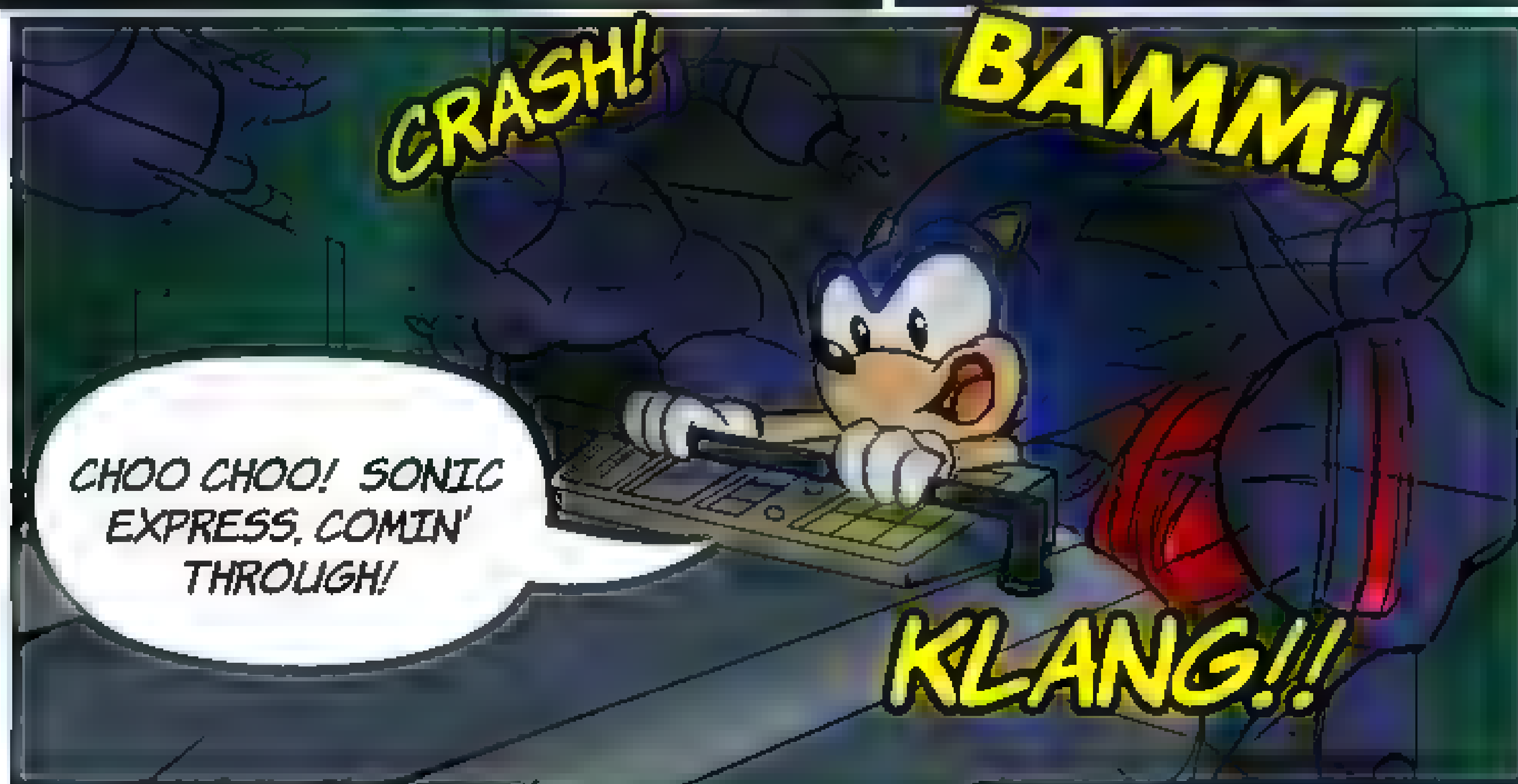


After all...



In the end, I
win either
way.

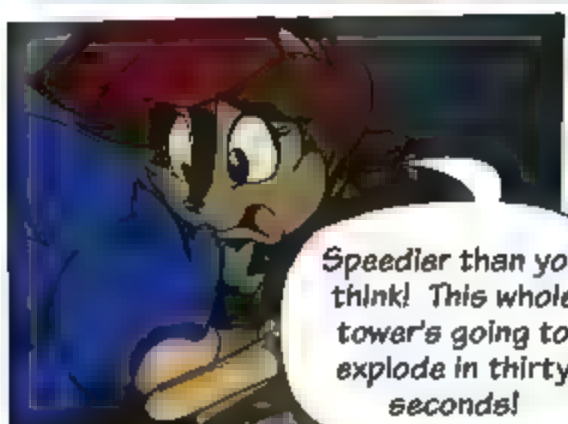






What can I say? The ol' hedgehog gut told me you guys might be in need of a speedy rescue!

Talk about timing, Sugah-Hog! Ya really saved our bacon back there!



Speedier than you think! This whole tower's going to explode in thirty seconds!



Hang on tight, gang, 'cuz it's time to julce 'n' jam to the MAX!

Re-lax, Sall That's like a hundred years in Sonic time!



BOOOM
BAM

Thanks for riding
the Sonic express!
Please come back
anytime!

SKREEEECH

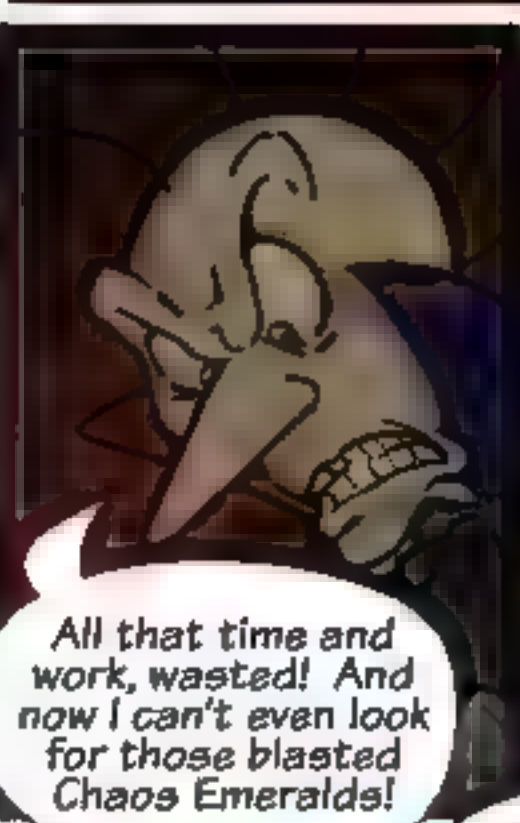
W-we did it!

We took out the
tower, faced Naugus
one on one, and lived
t'tell the tale!

Yeah...

Score one
for the good
guys...

Father...



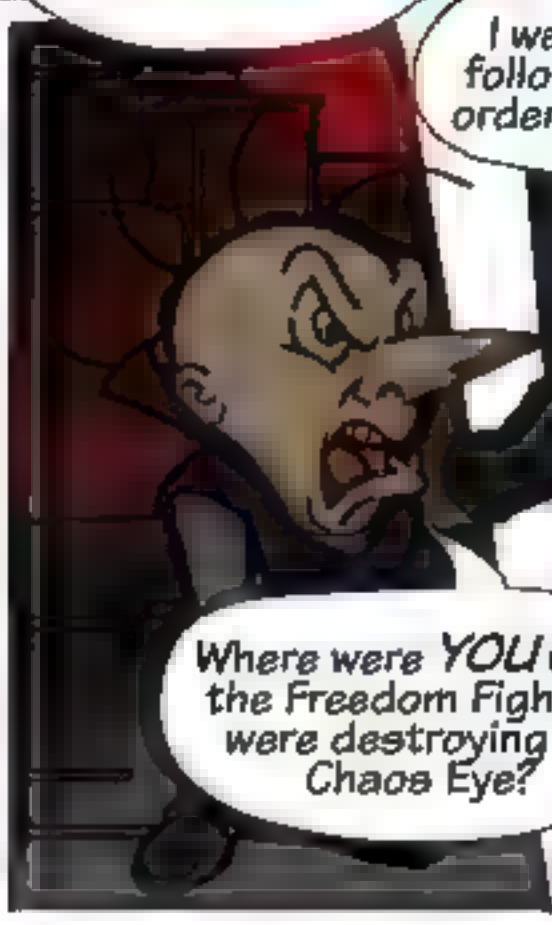
All that time and work, wasted! And now I can't even look for those blasted Chaos Emeralds!



SSHH



-YOU!



Where were **YOU** when the Freedom Fighters were destroying my Chaos Eye?



I was simply following your orders, Snively.

I tried to hunt down the Quickster, but, as I warned you, he proved to be a decoy.



I lost my communicator while trying to catch him, and he managed to elude me.

Elude you?

-AGAIN!? I'm tired of your failures, Naugus! You were supposed to help me destroy the Freedom Fighters...

SMACK

But since your efforts to defeat the Hedgehog and his friends have all been complete fail-

OOF!



H-How dare you! I-

You think I care about this pathetic war you and the Freedom Fighters are waging?

I have a mission to complete well beyond your petty conflicts.

You promised to help me complete that mission in exchange for my assistance, but now?

Your precious Eye is gone, which means if you want to find the Emeralds, you will need my magic to track them! So....

Shall we re-negotiate?

SILENCE!!



Head Writer and Story Developer E. Mason

Lead Illustrator and Designer Steven Wood

Head Producer and Editor of Main Chapters Paul Scott

Head Producers and Editors of Side Story's Paul Scott, John Roberts

Producers and Directors of Sea3on and FUS: Paul Scott and John Roberts

Download Organizer Douglas G. Bigelow (TheRedAuthor)

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Thank you,

For further talk on Sea3on, please join the FUS forums

<http://sonicsatam.com/forums/>

Fight Sonic for everlasting... wait... wrong franchise.

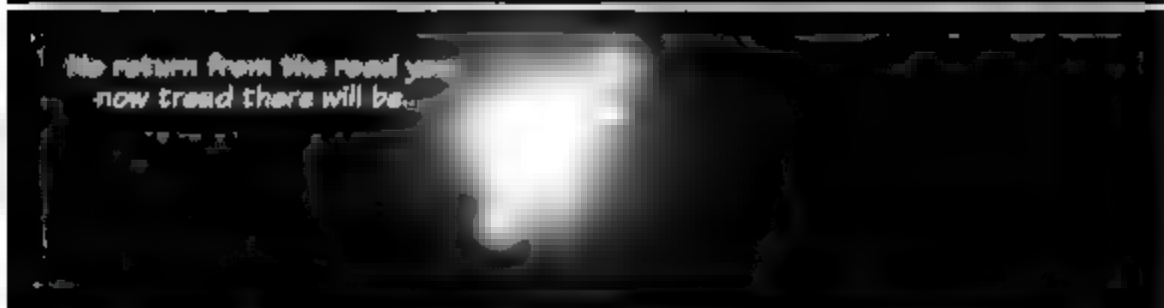
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SEASON



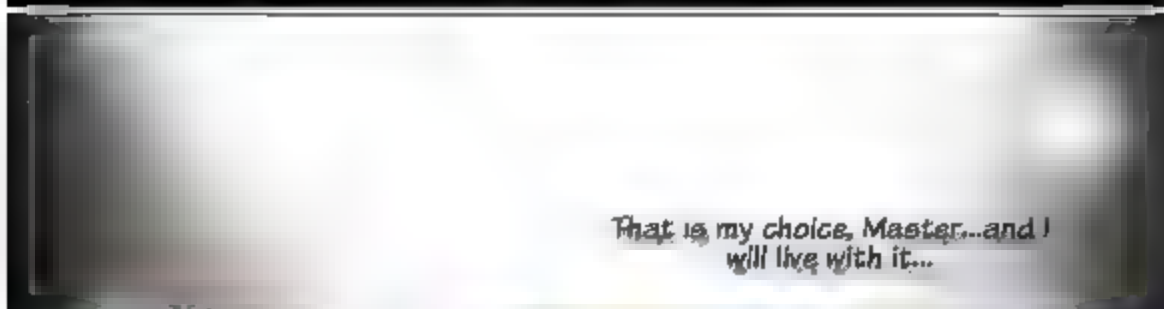
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG SEASON



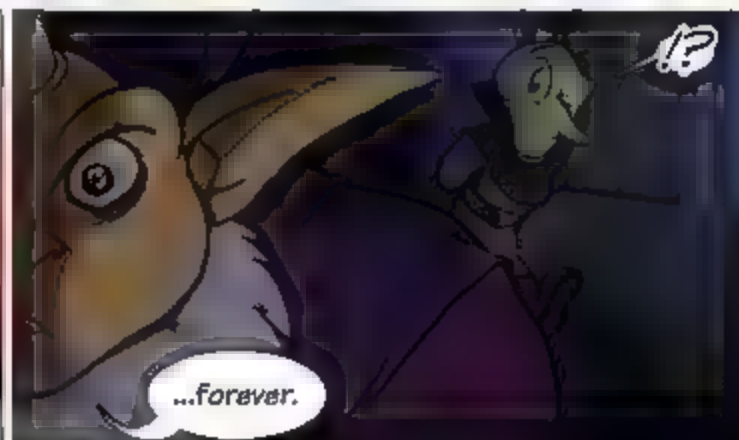
CHAPTER 4



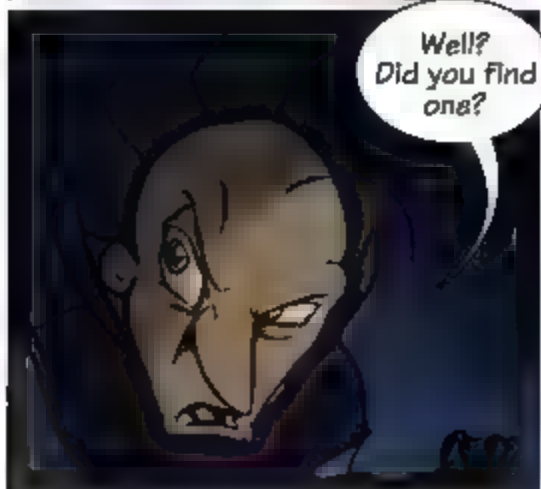
The return from the road you
now tread there will be...



That is my choice, Master...and I
will live with it...



...forever.



Well?
Did you find
one?



I have found...
something...



The Hunt Begins, Part One: Return to Maga

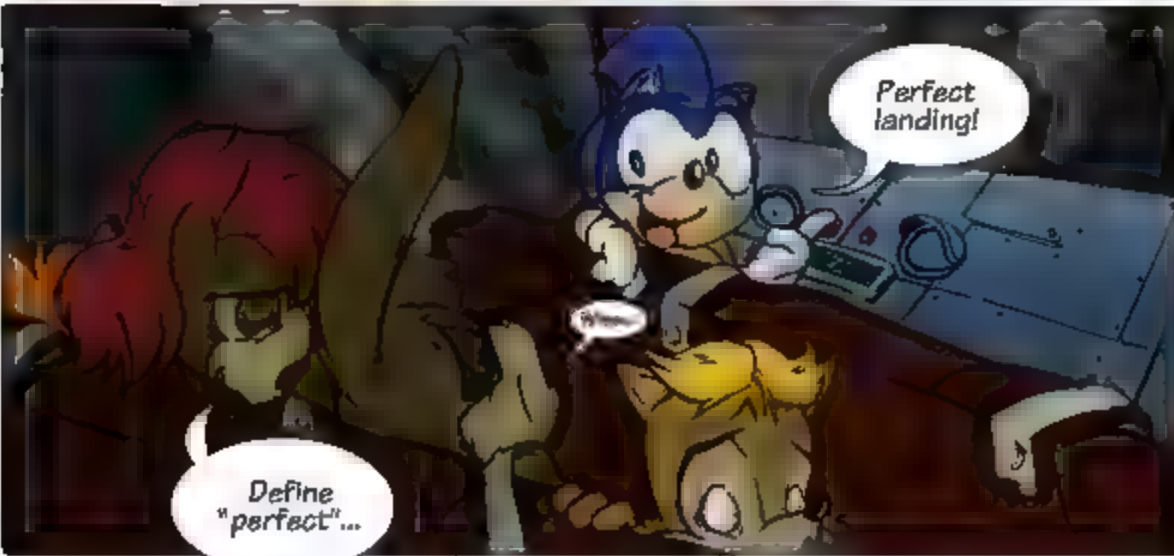
Written by Eric Mason, "Gorira"
Illustrated by Steven Wood, "Saber"
Edited by Paul Scott and John Roberts
Based on the "Sonic the Hedgehog" cartoon
Characters owned by DiC and SEGA

Remind me,
why'd we let
Sugar-Hog fly
the plane
again?



Perfect
landing!

Define
"perfect"...





This place looks way past cool, you guys! Why couldn't I come here with you last time?

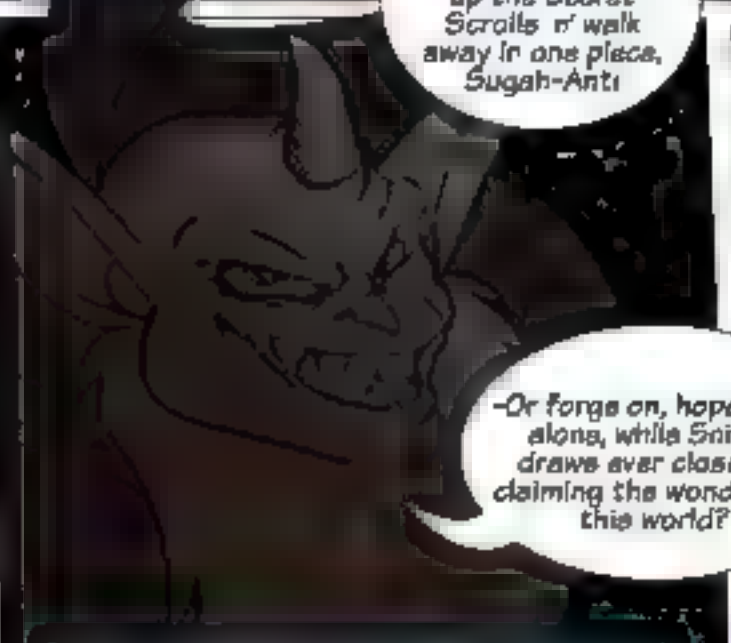
Because it is being a most dangerous of places...

Not so dangerous we couldn't snatch up the Secret Scrolls n' walk away in one piece, Sugah-Anti

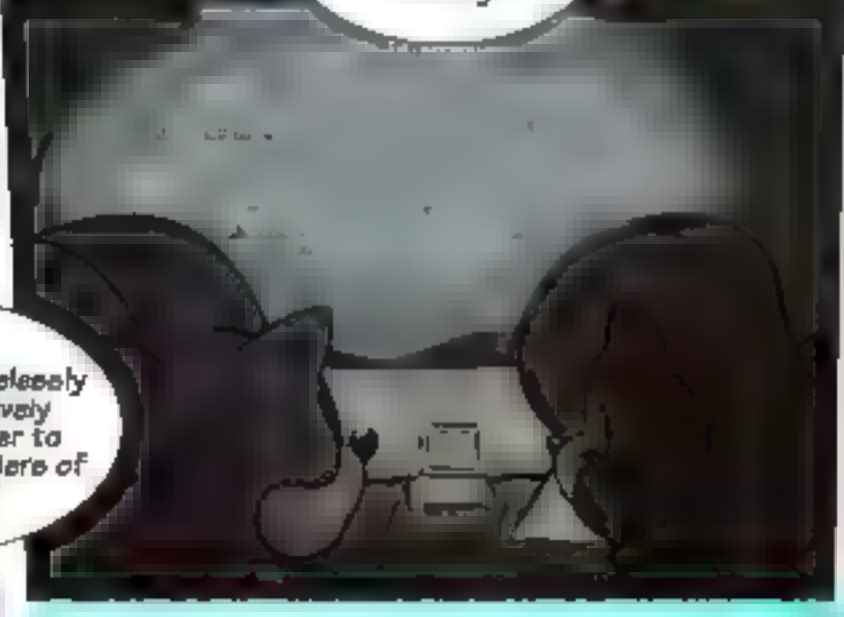


You really think this place can help us figure out the riddle that weirdo "Guardian" stuck us with, Sai?

I'm not positive, Sonic, but something Naugus said the last time we saw him in Robotropolis got me thinking...

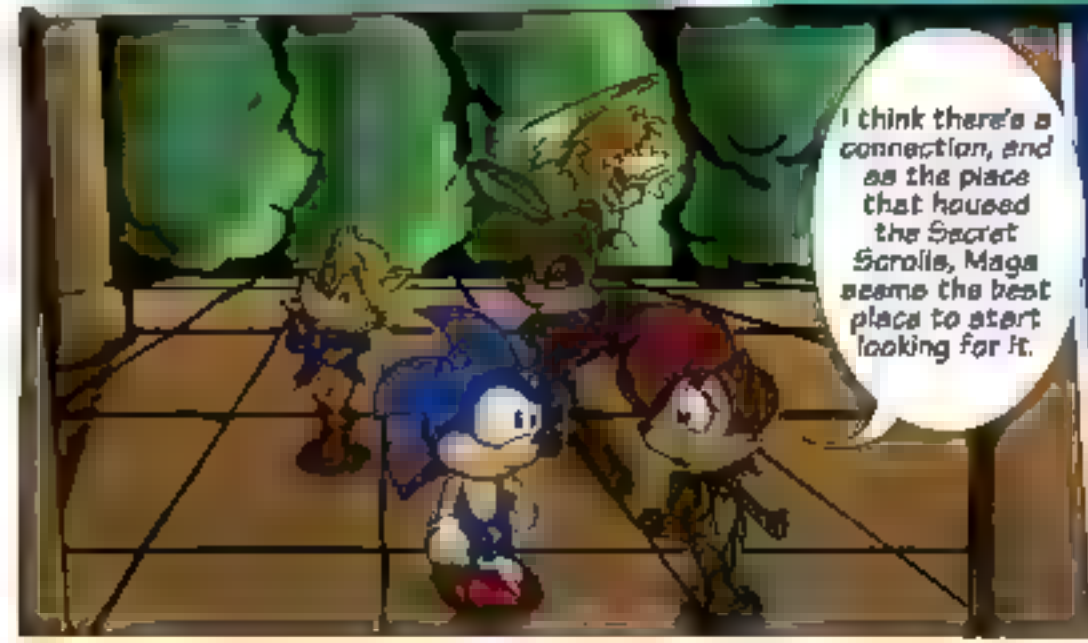


-Or forge on, hopelessly alone, while Snively draws ever closer to claiming the wonders of this world?



It was that word he used, "wonders", which struck me...

The Guardian's scroll talks about seven different kinds of power which stem from this "Chaos", while the Secret Scrolls described the seven wonders of Mobius.



I think there's a connection, and as the place that housed the Secret Scrolls, Muga seems the best place to start looking for it.




Bit of a long-shot, don't ya think, Sai?



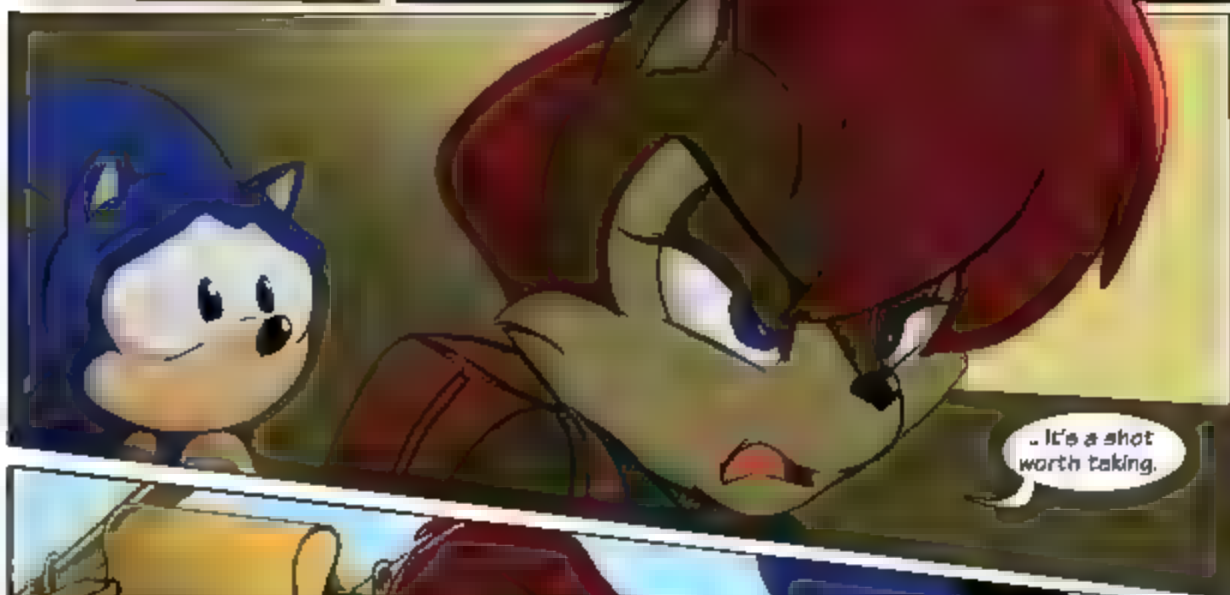
Maybe,
but...

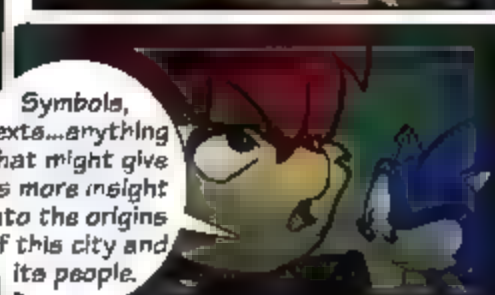
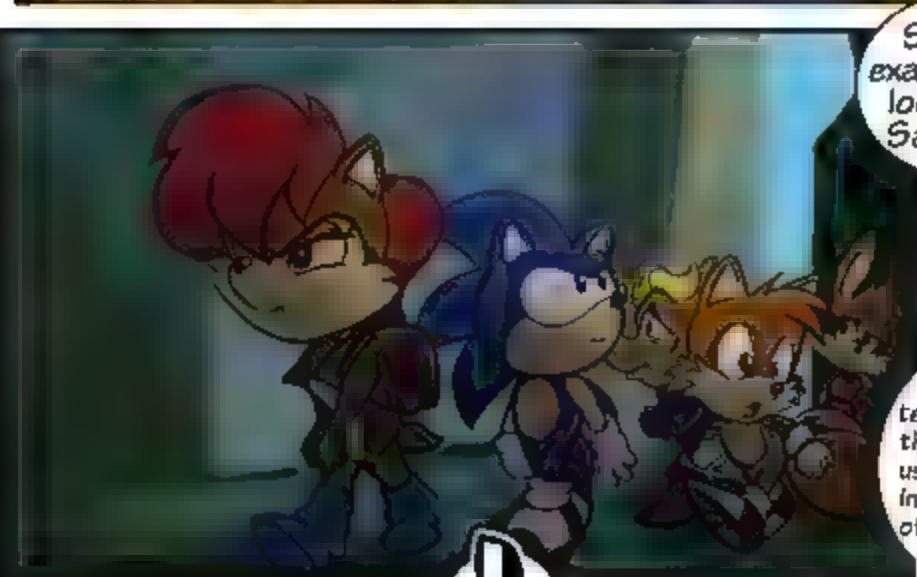
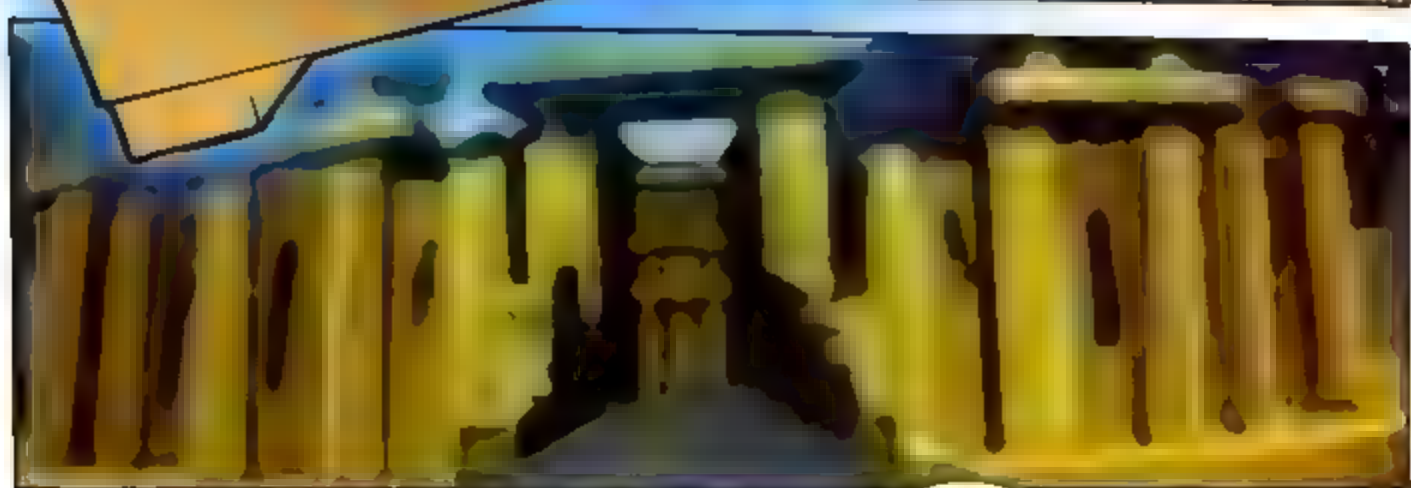


Your pre-
cious father
is now
trapped
with his
most hated
enemy...

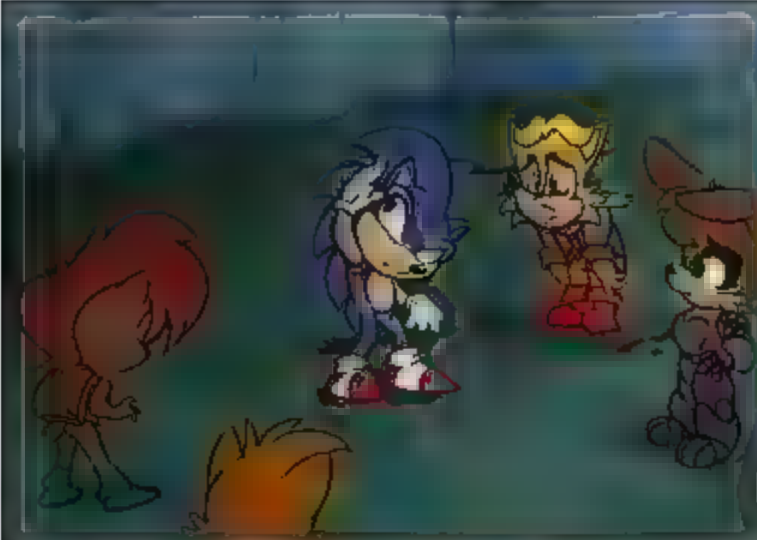


And only I
have the
power to
free him.





LISTEN!!!



You guys hear that?



Hear what? I don't...



...no wind bursts.



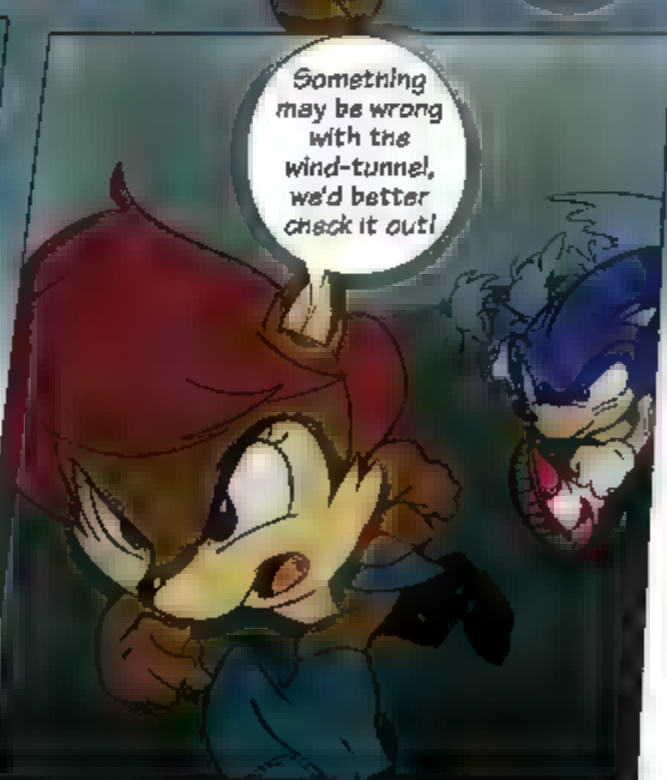
Not since we got here.



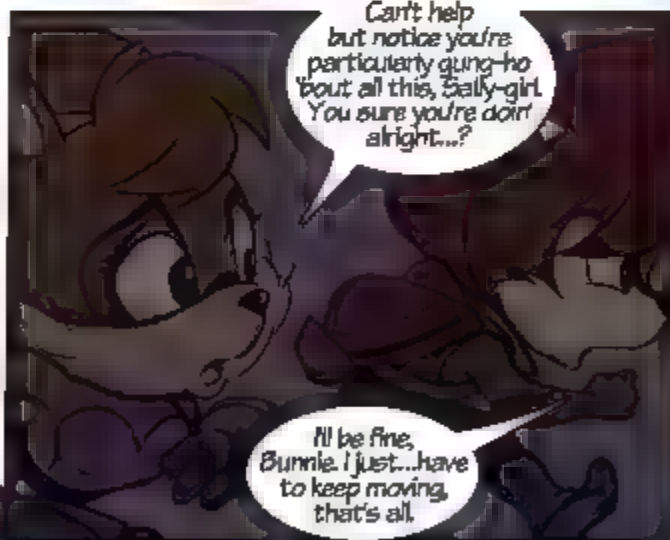
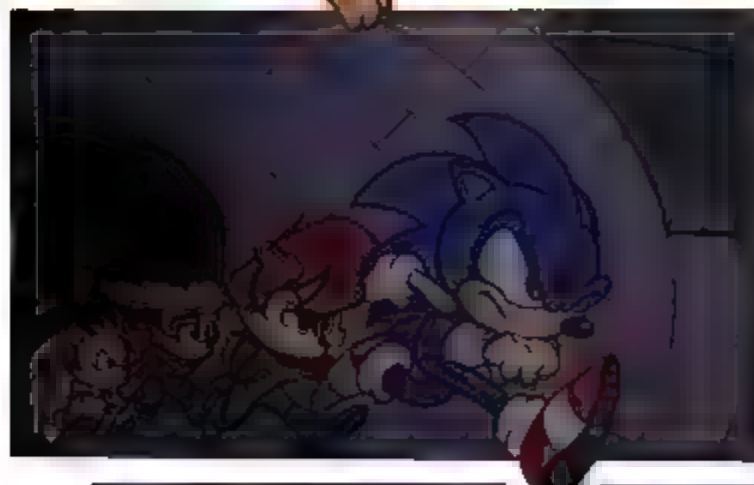
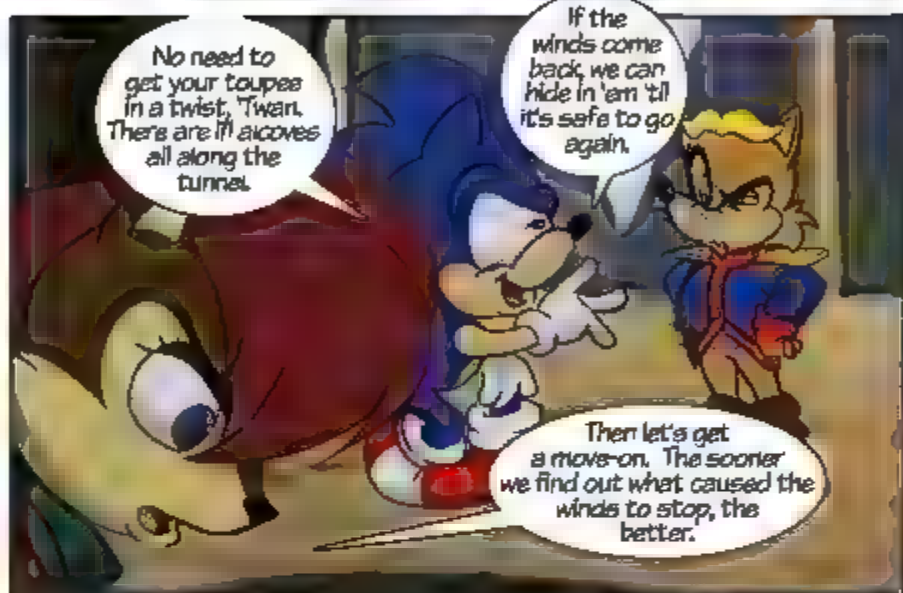
Wind bursts?

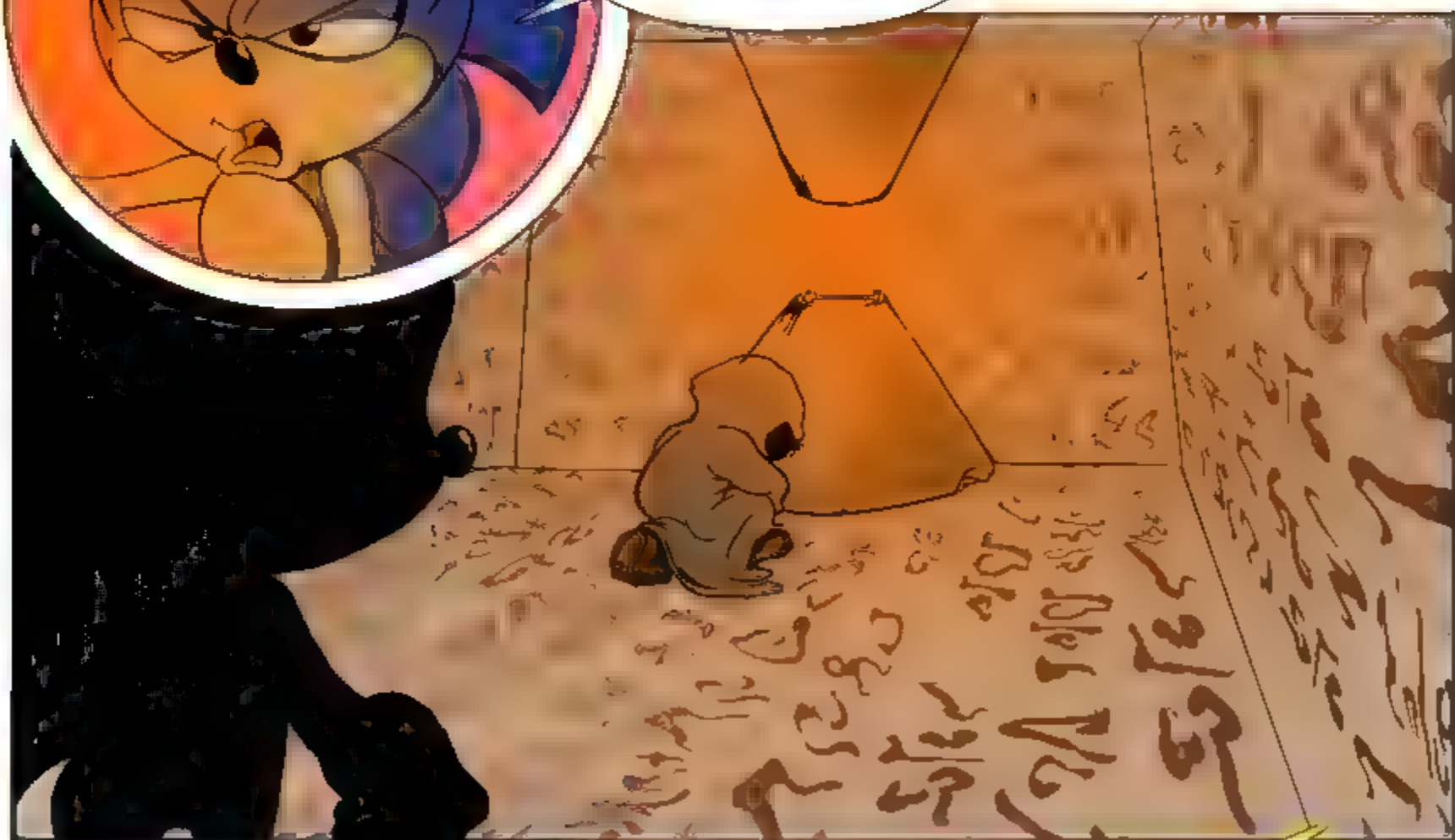
One 'o' this city's it's quirks. Big blasts 'o' wind're s'posed t'blow through every few minutes.

Made our last trip here mighty excitin', that's fer sure.



Something may be wrong with the wind-tunnel, we'd better check it out!





SO YOU'RE
THE ONE SCREWING
UP THE WIND
TUNNEL!

MR. GUARDIAN!

I HAVEN'T
"SCREWED UP"
ANYTHING.

I SIMPLY PUT
THE WIND TUNNEL
TO REST SO I COULD
EXAMINE ITS
HEART...

WELL AIN'T
THAT A NIFTY
TRICK?

SO...THAT
CRYSTAL IS WHAT
GENERATES THE WINDS
FROM THE TUNNEL?

I AM NOT
SURE I AM INCLINED
TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION,
PRINCESS.

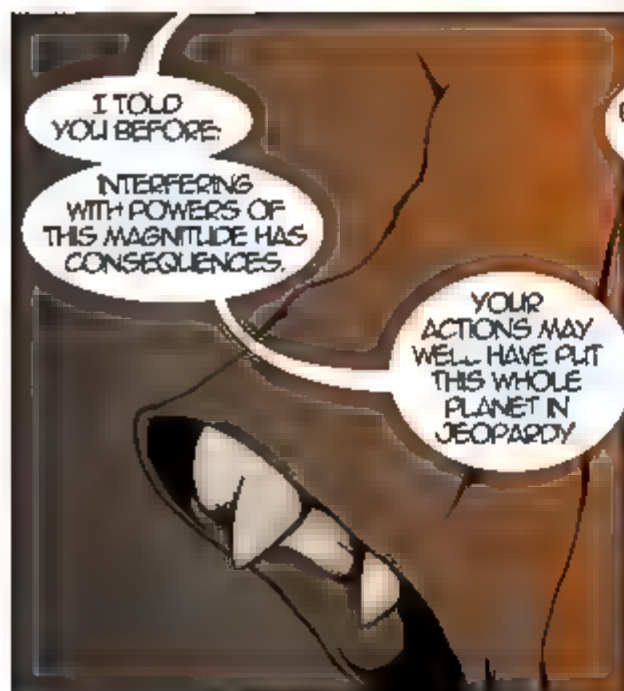
SO FAR YOU'VE
GIVEN ME NO REASON
TO DISTRUST YOU-

BUT AFTER
OUR PREVIOUS ENCOUNTER
I DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE
WHAT OTHER FORCES YOUR
TEAM HAS TRIFLED WITH
OTHER THAN THE DEEP
POWER STONES.

AND THE
RESULTS HAVE SO
FAR BEEN MOST
DISAPPOINTING.

THE CITY OF
MAGA IS ONLY MY LATEST
STOP. THE FLOATING ISLAND,
THE FORBIDDEN ZONE, DROOD
HENCE...ALL OF THEM TOUCHED
BY YOUR PRESENCE.

SO?



I TOLD YOU BEFORE.

INTERFERING WITH POWERS OF THIS MAGNITUDE HAS CONSEQUENCES.

YOUR ACTIONS MAY WELL HAVE PUT THIS WHOLE PLANET IN JEOPARDY.



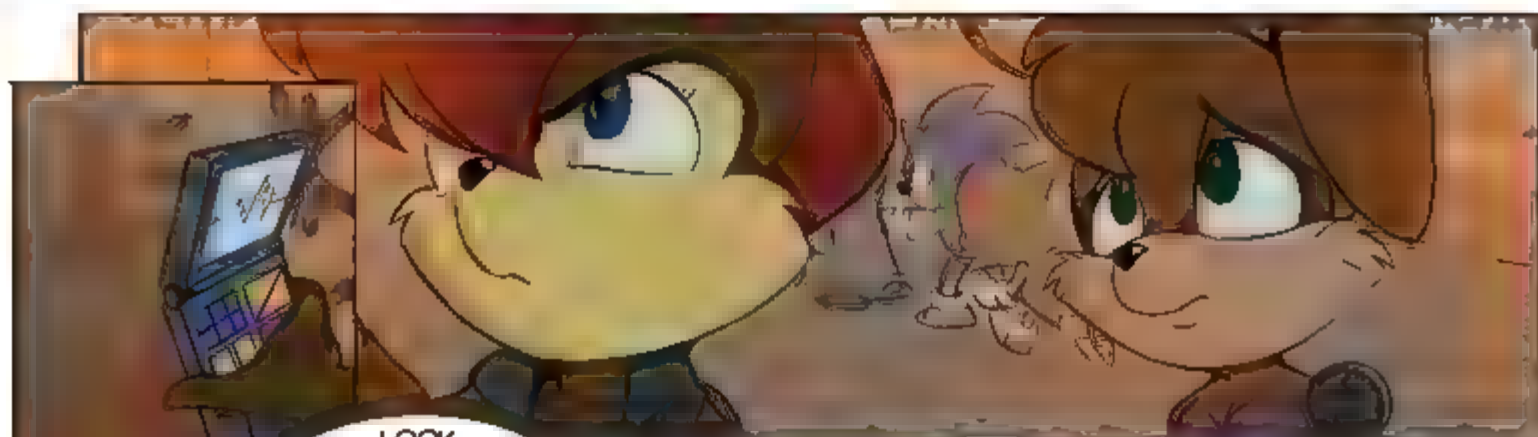
WATCH IT, BUD!

WE'VE BEEN BUSTIN' OUR BUTTS TRYIN' TO SAVE THIS PLANET!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING ALL THAT TIME?

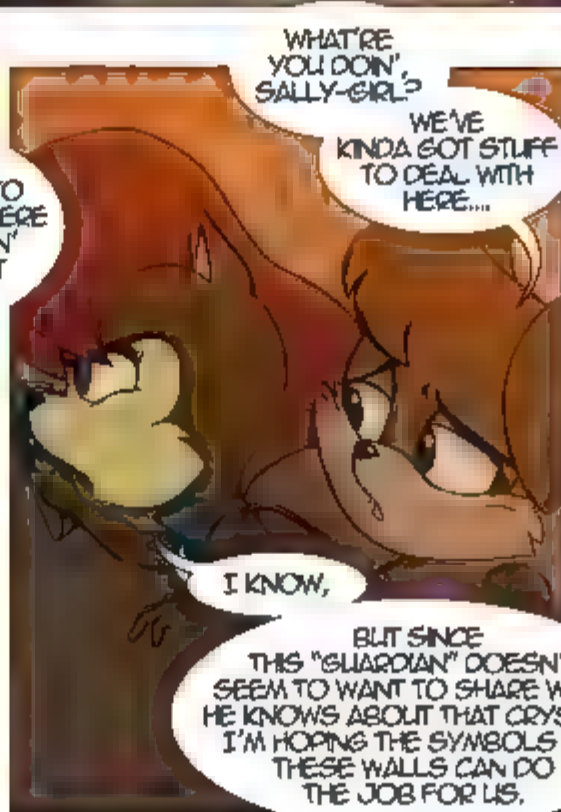
YOUR MOTIVES ARE IRRELEVANT.

WHY YOU WANT TO USE THESE POWERS DOES NOT CHANGE THE RISK POSED BY USING THEM.



LOOK, MR. GUARDIAN, YOU SAVED MY LIFE IN ROBOTROPOLIS, SO I KNOW YOU'RE NOT A BAD GUY.

BUT I THINK YOU NEED TO GIVE US A CHANCE HERE WE'RE ONLY TRYIN' TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

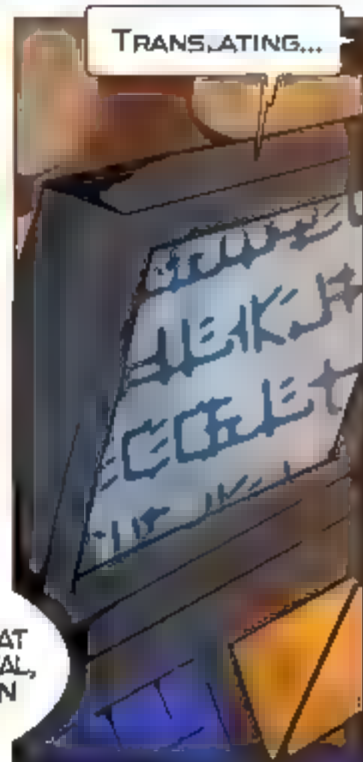


WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' SALLY-GIRL?

WE'VE KINDA GOT STUFF TO DEAL WITH HERE....

I KNOW,

BUT SINCE THIS "GUARDIAN" DOESN'T SEEM TO WANT TO SHARE WHAT HE KNOWS ABOUT THAT CRYSTAL, I'M HOPING THE SYMBOLS ON THESE WALLS CAN DO THE JOB FOR US.



TRANSLATING...



YOU HEARD HIM, BIG GUY!

"THE RIGHT THING" DOESN'T ADD UP TO MUCH IN HIS BOOK.

TRANSLATION
COMPLETE

"BY STAR'S
GUIDANCE, BY SUN'S
PROTECTION

PASSWORD
ACCEPTED. SECURITY
PROTOCOLS ENGAGED.

WHA?

EEEEEE

NICOLE!

NICOLE!

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING OVER
THERE?

AND YOUR
OWN BUSINESS, DAD
YOU DON'T OWN THIS
PLACE!

I HAVE
GREATER CLAIM
HERE THAN--

WHOA
HEY--

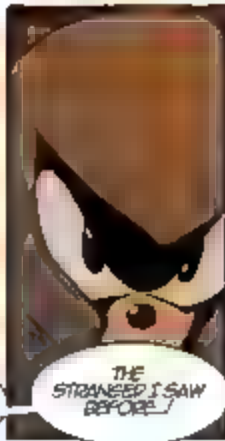
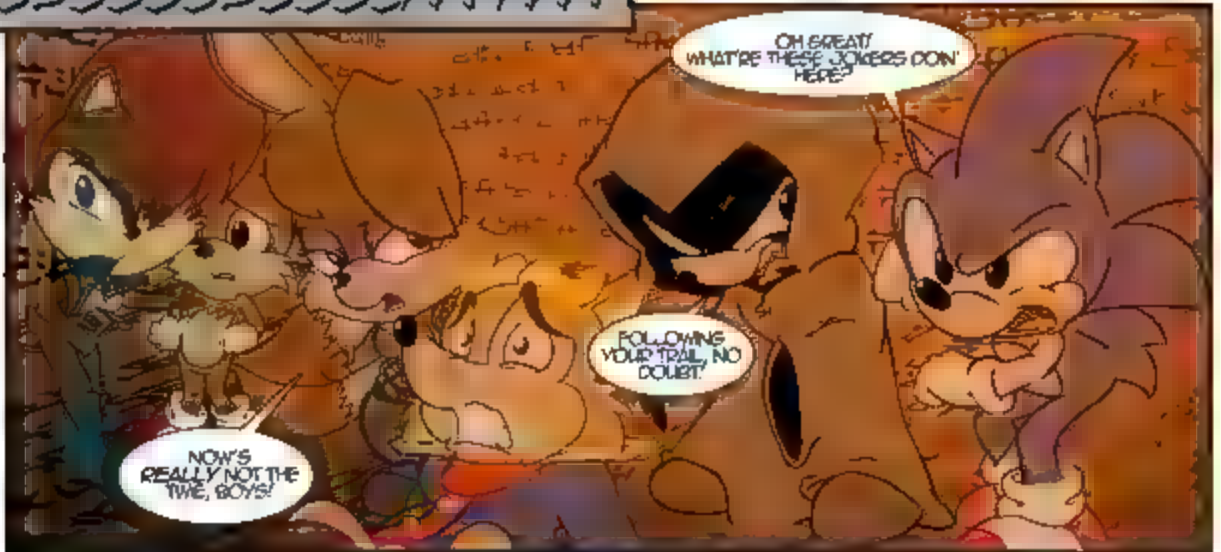
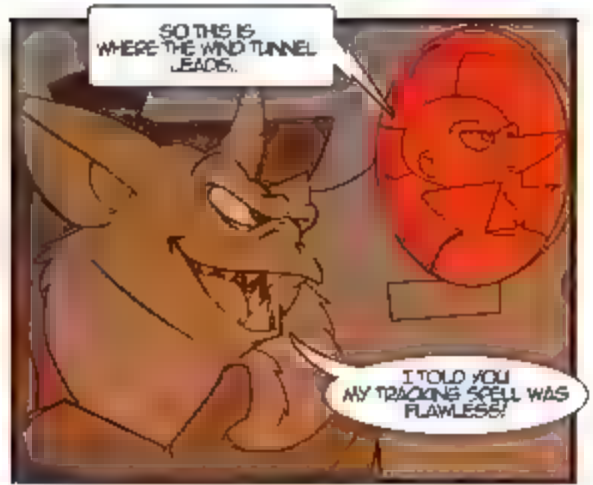
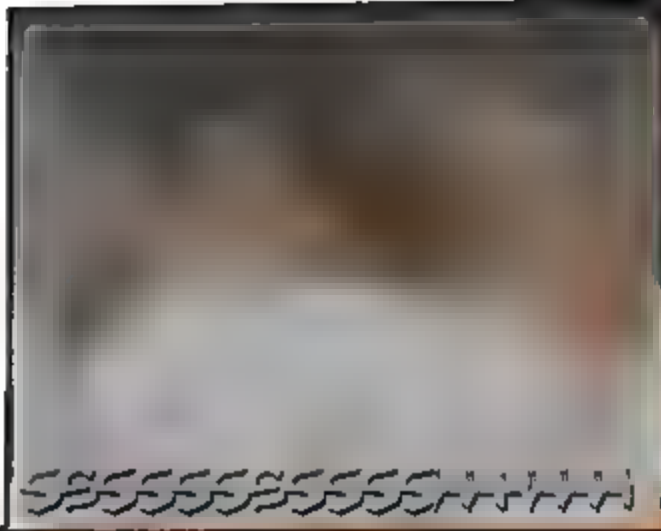
OH
YEAH? SAYS
WH-P

YOU
IDIOTS...

YOU'VE
LED THEM
STRAIGHT
TO IT!

"THEM?"
WHO DO
YOU--

EEEEEE





YOU CAN
TAKE THE CRYSTAL WITH YOU.
I PROMISE, WE WON'T LET THEM
GET THEIR HANDS
ON IT.

-HOW MUCH
SAFER COULD IT BE WITH
THOSE TWO TEARING UP
THIS PLACE?

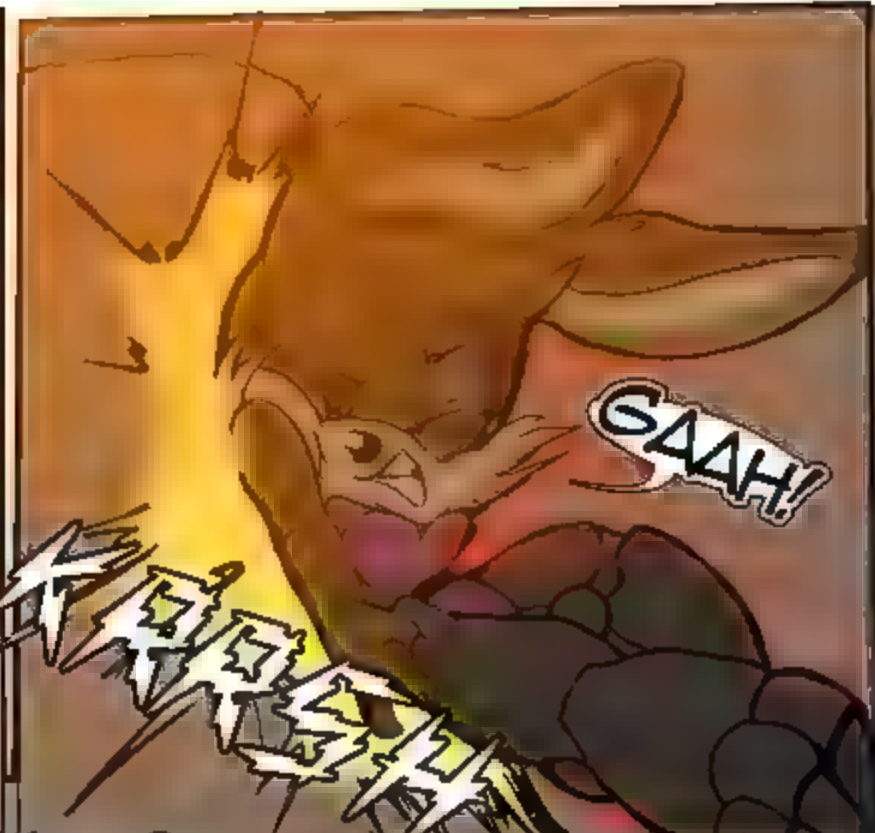
AND BESIDES-

CRASH

WHATEVER
WE'RE DOIN', THE
SOONER THE
BETTER!

VERY WELL...
JUST THIS
ONCE...

NO!
YOU WILL
NOT DENY ME
MY DESTINY!



WHERE IS THE BLUE ONE?





SONIC,
THIS IS OUR
CHANCE!

I DO
NOT APPRECIATE
BEING YOUR
FLATTENING
HAM!

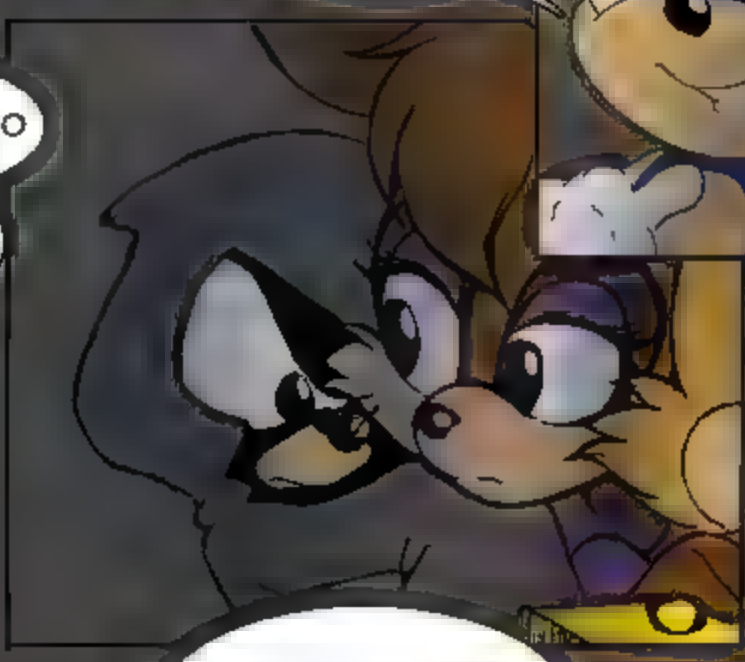


RIGHT!

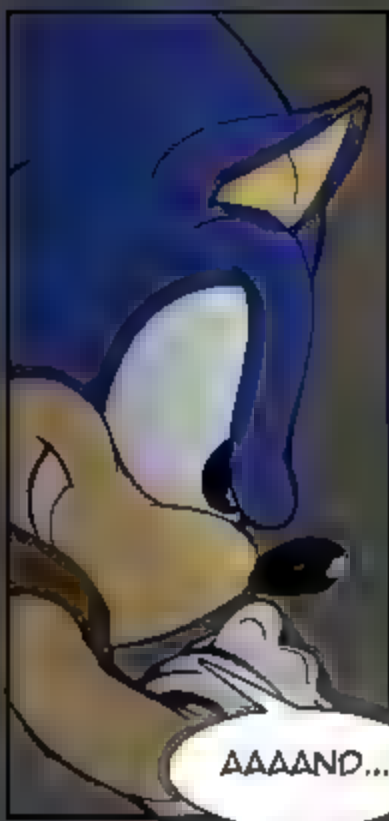
ALL
ABOARD,
EVERYBODY!

THAT
INCLUDES YOU, O
CRYPTIC ONE

... RIGHT,



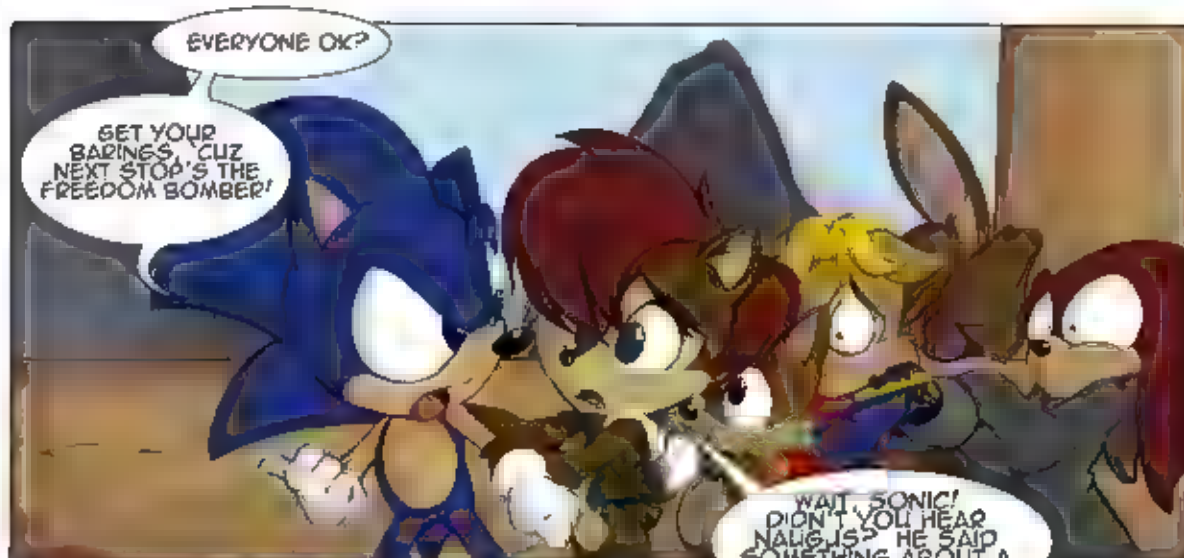
-THEY'RE
OFF!



AAAAND....

ACK!!
N-NO!

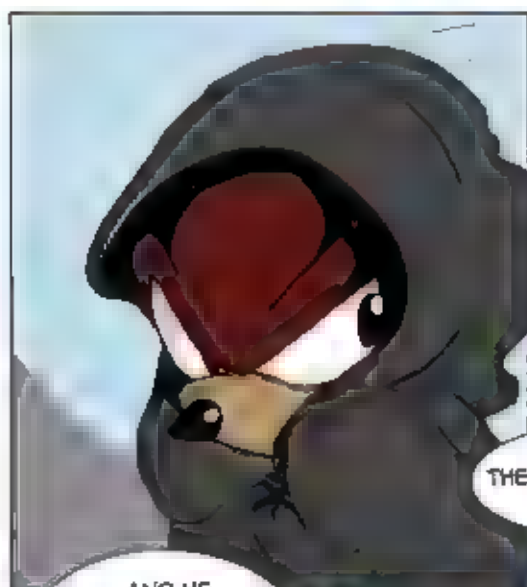




EVERYONE OK?

GET YOUR
BARINGS, 'CUZ
NEXT STOP'S THE
FREEDOM BOMBER!

WAIT, SONIC!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR
NAUGUS? HE SAID
SOMETHING ABOUT A
"TRACKING SPELL!"



THE PRINCESS IS
CORRECT.



THIS "NAUGUS"
CREATURE IS MAGICALLY
GIFTED. HE MUST'VE USED THAT
POWER TO TRACK THE WIND
CRYSTAL.



AND HE
IS ALSO NO DOUBT
ON HIS WAY TO BE
CATCHING US THIS
VERY MOMENTOUS
SECOND!

WE MUST
DO SOMETHING!



I AGREE
WITH ANT

WE CAN'T
HAND THAT CRYSTAL
OVER T' THE BAD
GUYS.

WE CAN'T
RUN, SO WE
GOTTA MAKE OUR
STAND 'N' FIGHT
'EM OFF!

ZAT IS
NOT WHAT
I SAID AT
ALL!!!

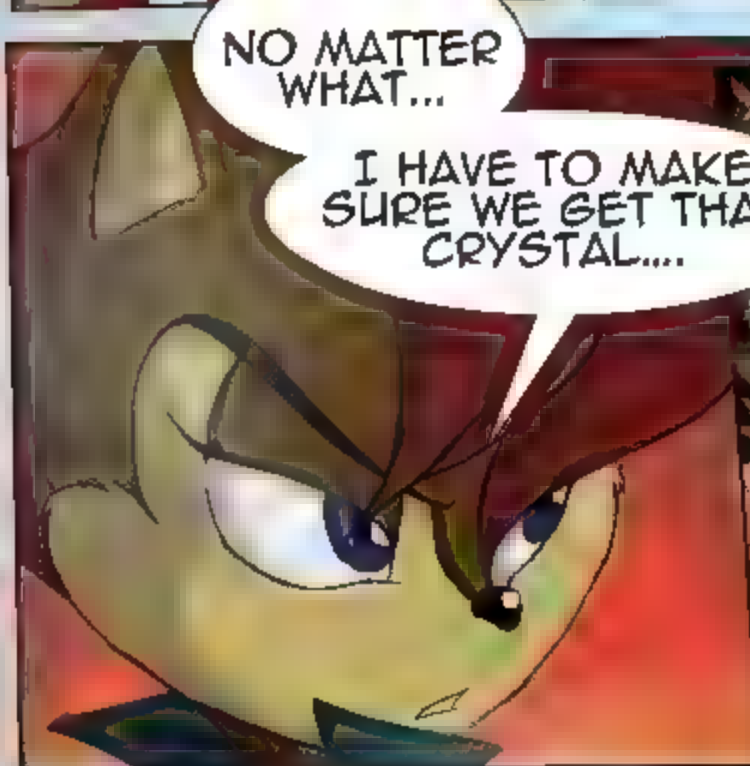


THE WIZARD
DRAWS CLOSE, I
CAN SENSE IT.



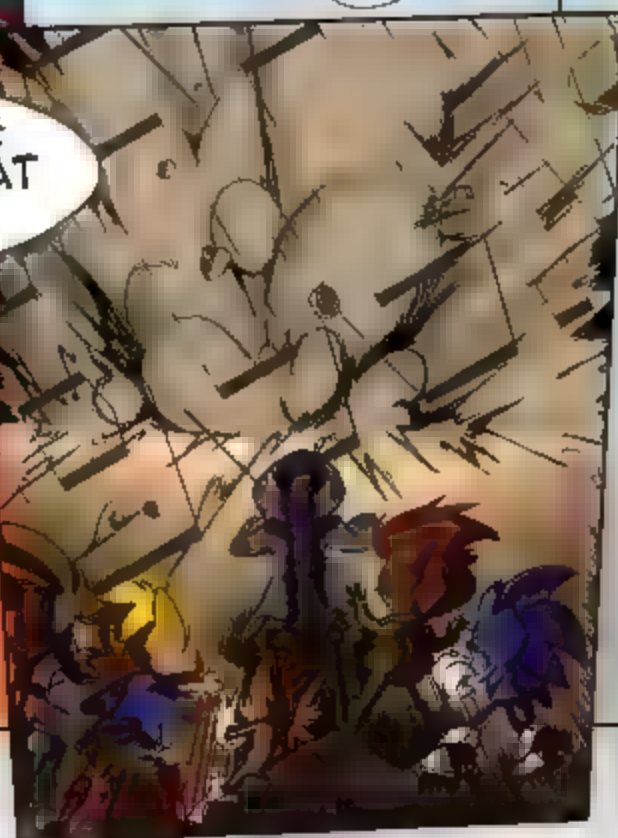
SONIC...IF
THIS TAKES A TURN
FOR THE WORSE, I WANT
YOU TO GET TAILS AND THE
OTHERS TO THE FREEDOM
BOMBER AND HEAD BACK
TO KNOTHOLE.

NO WAY! WHAT
ABOUT YOU?

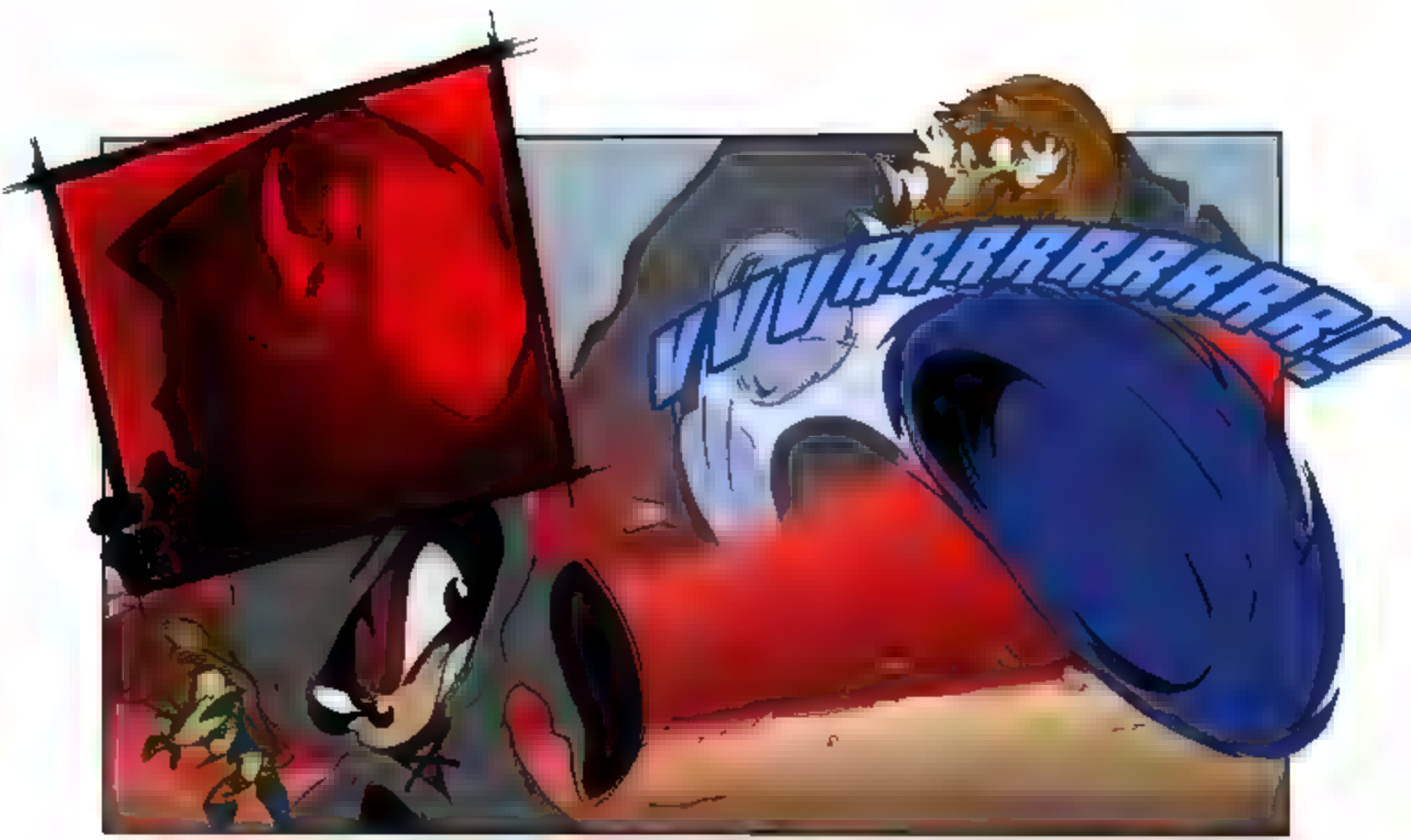


NO MATTER
WHAT...

I HAVE TO MAKE
SURE WE GET THAT
CRYSTAL....



FOOLS!



WHAT BUSINESS DO YOU HAVE WITH THESE VERMIN?

BAMF!

YOU ARE NOT LIKE THEM, I CAN SENSE IT.

I AM NOT LIKE YOU EITHER.

I CAN SENSE THAT YOU ARE A CURSED THING.

HEY!

CAPTAIN CRYPTIC ISN'T THE ONLY GUY YOU HAVE T'WORRY ABOUT, FREAK-FACE!

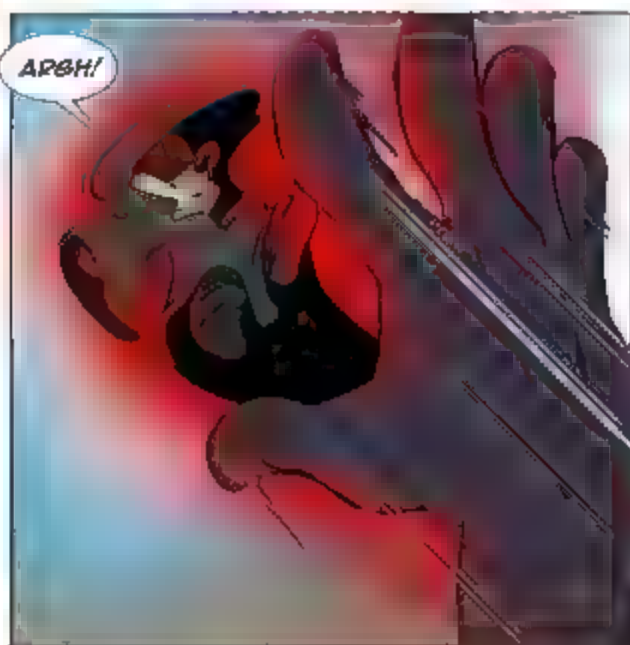
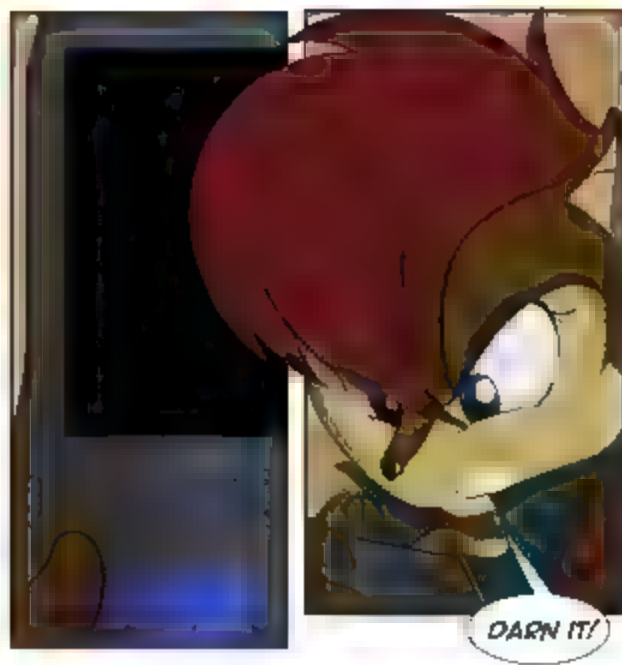
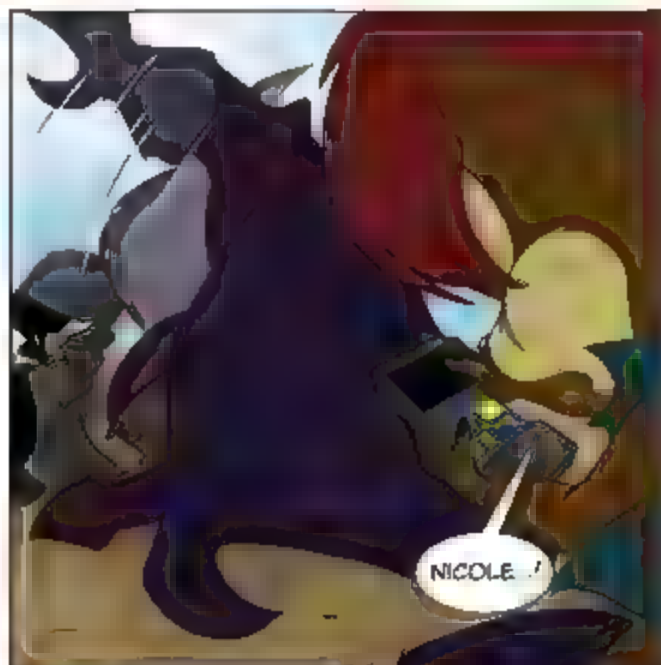
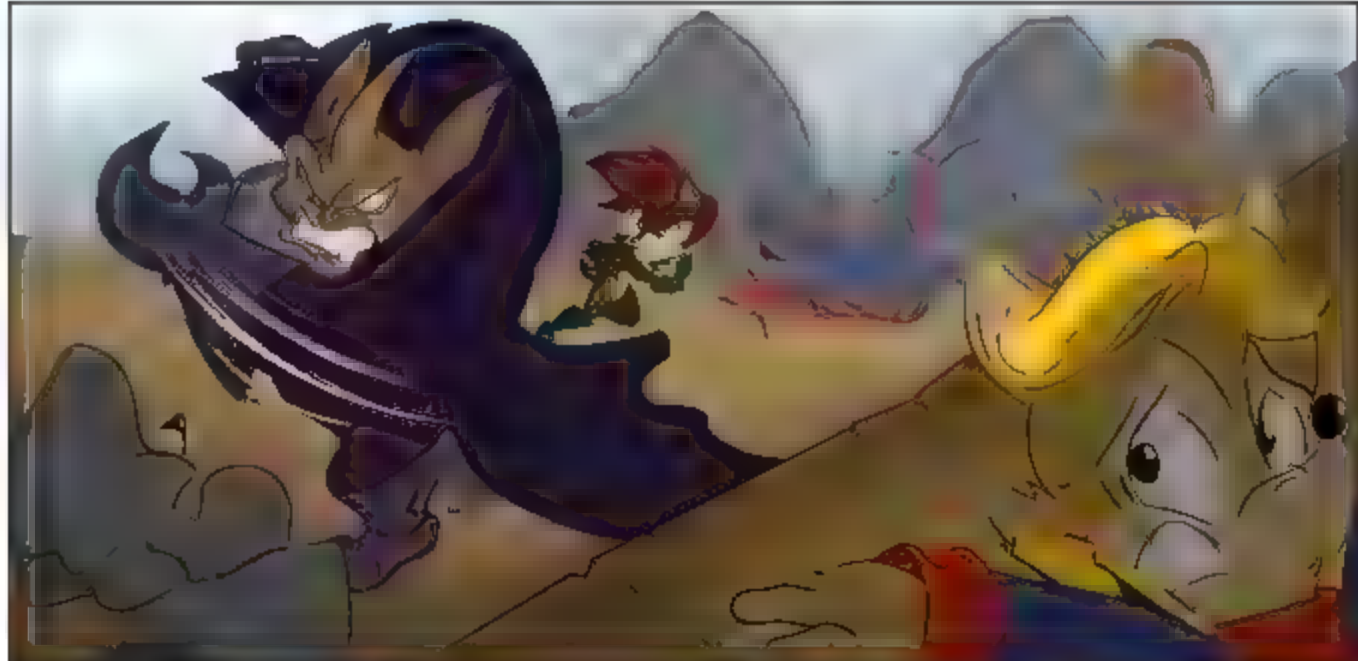
WOOSH

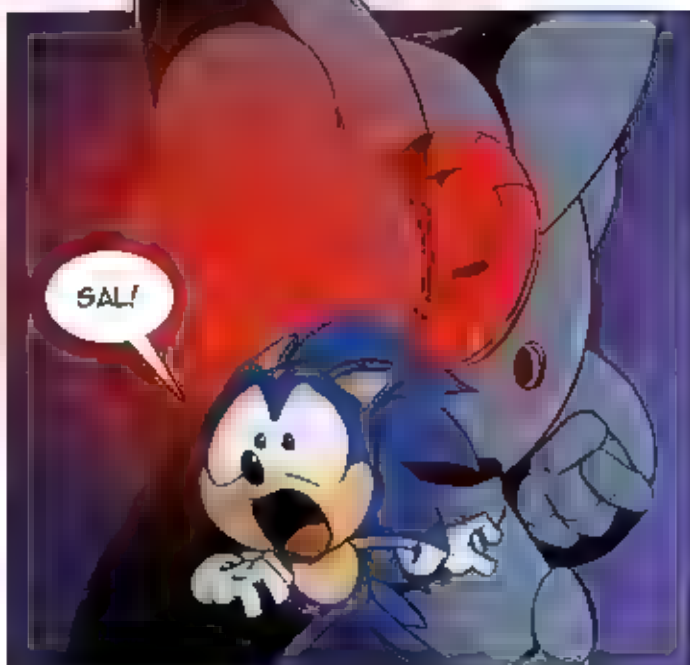
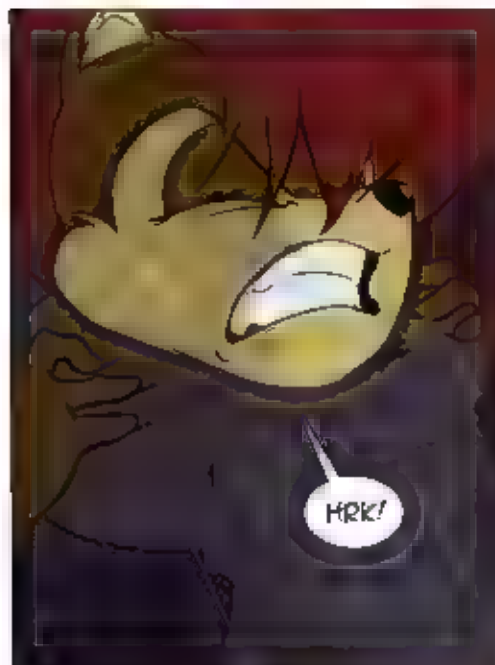
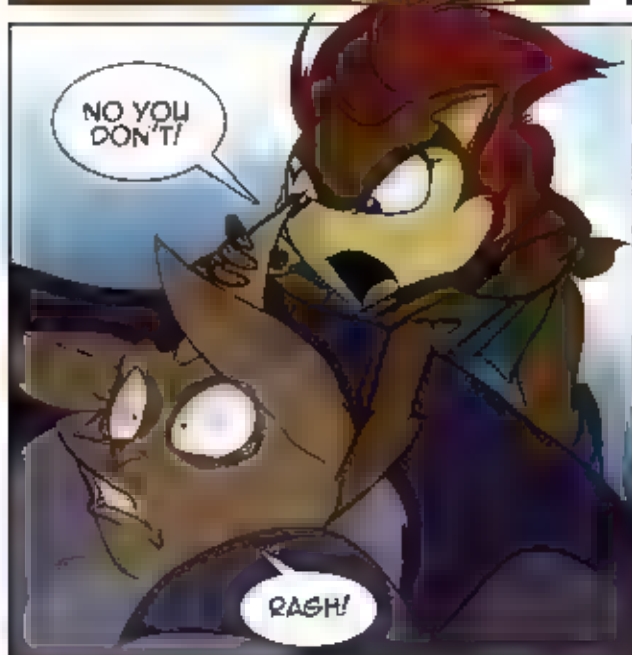
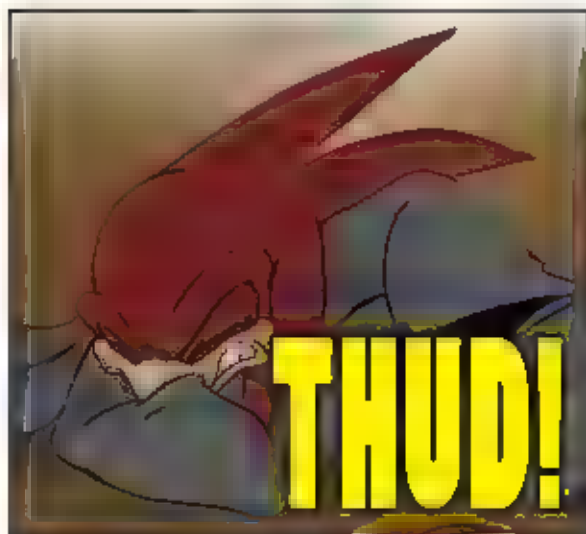
AND NAUGUS ISN'T THE ONLY ONE YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT, HEDGEHOG.

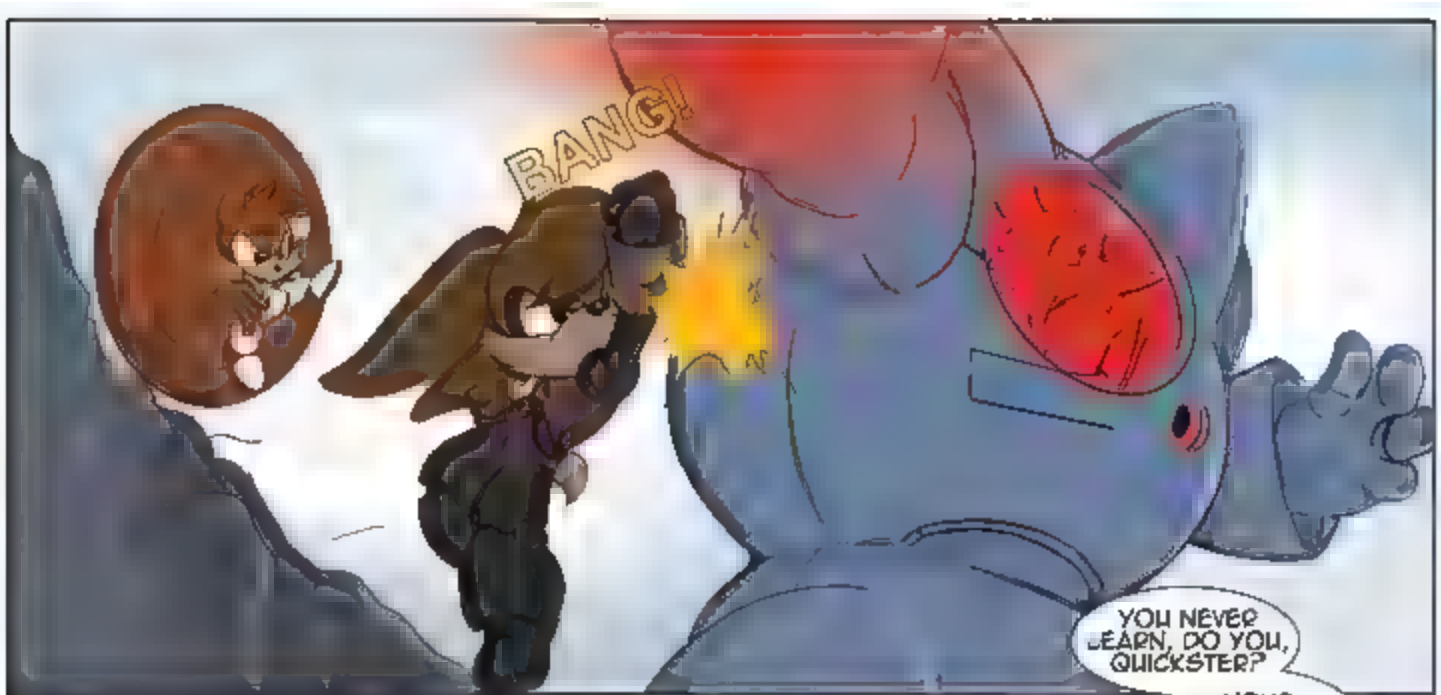
THUD!

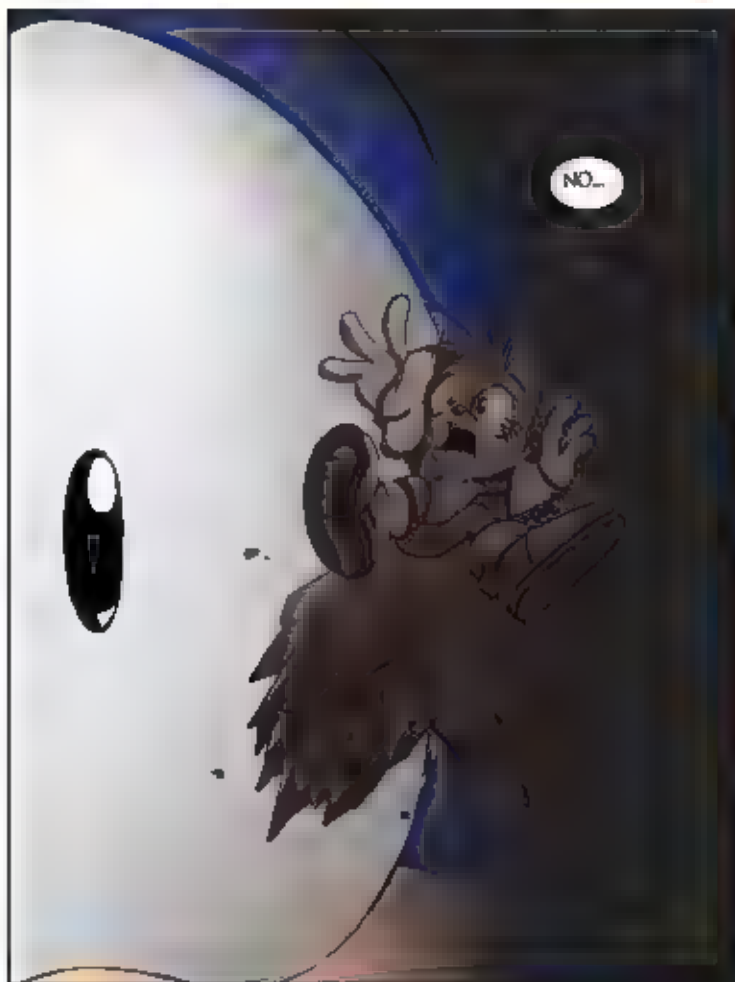
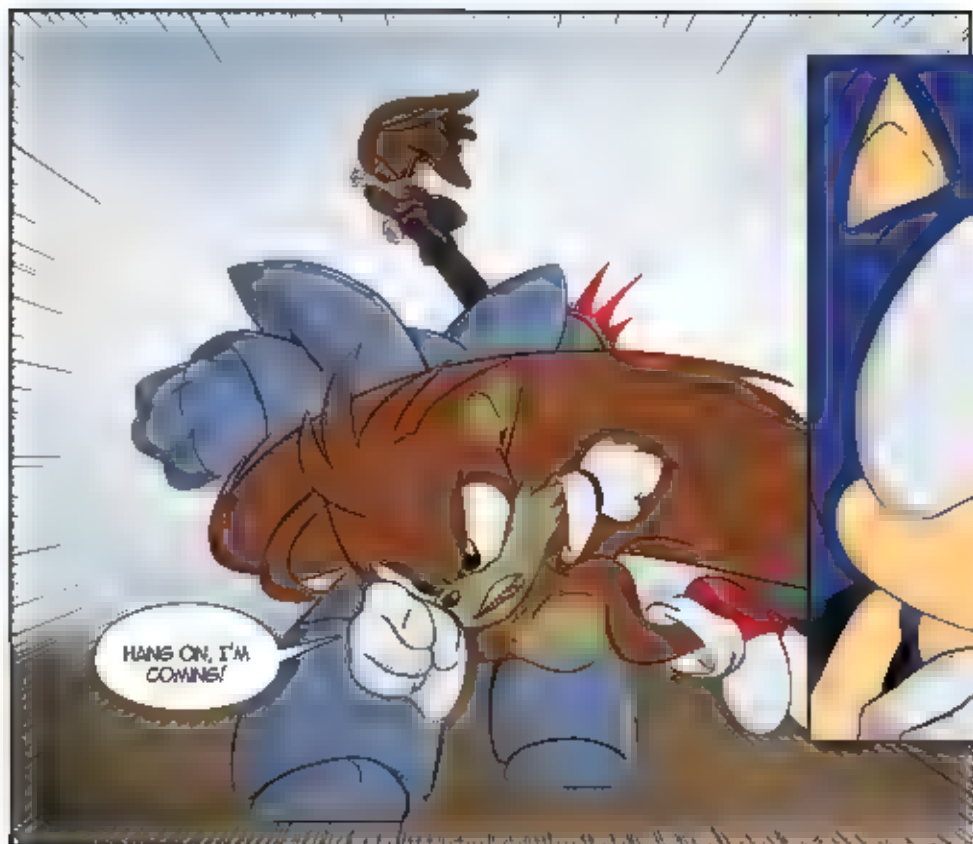
OH YEAH?

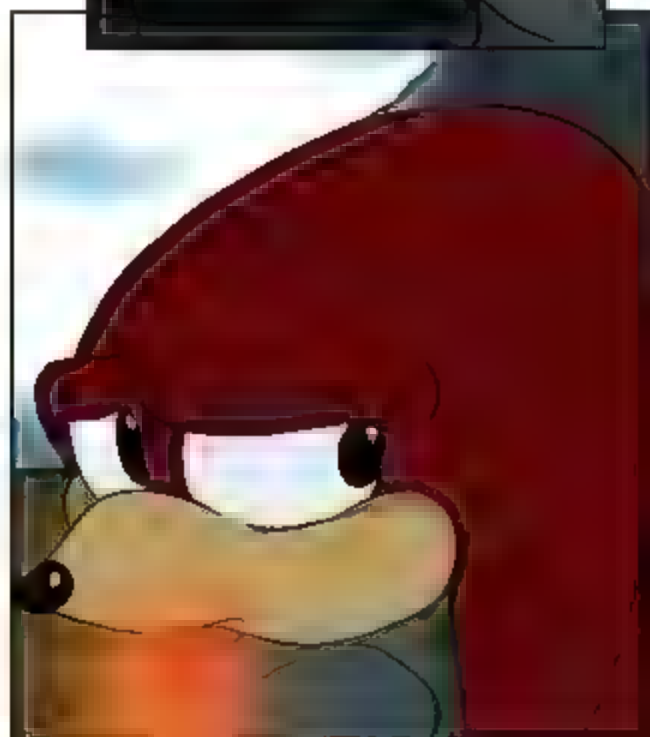
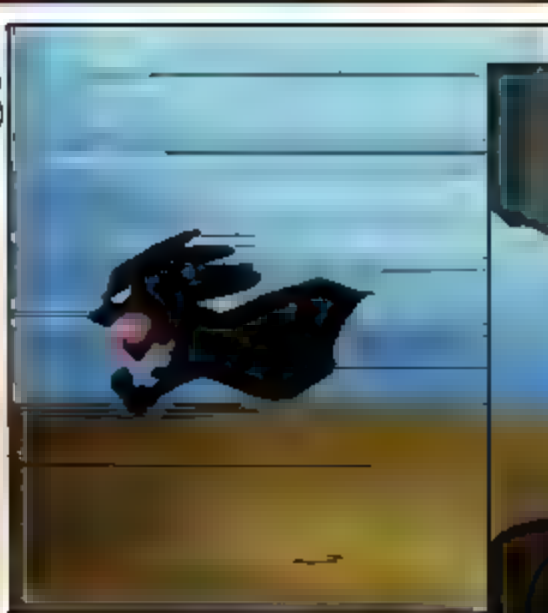
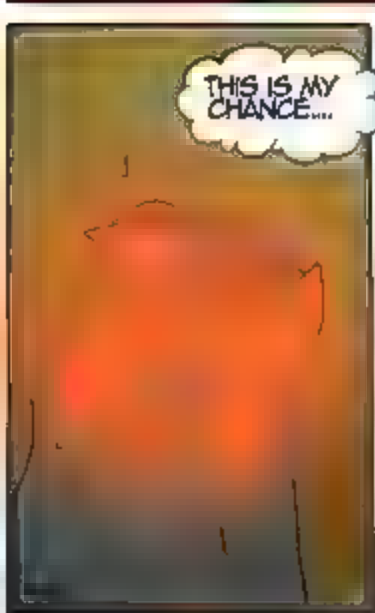
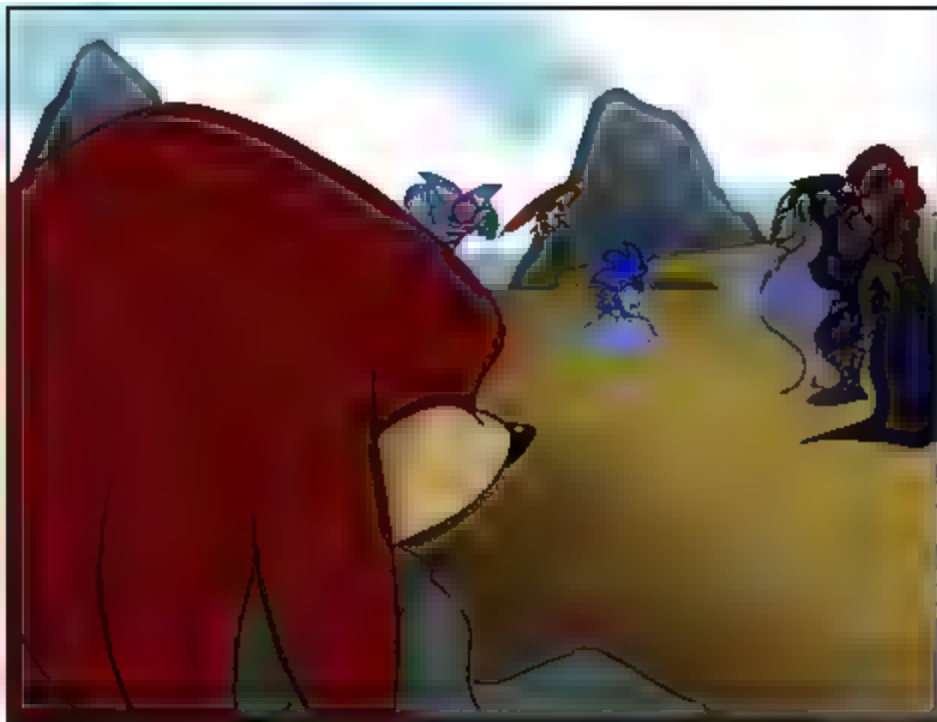
NOW WHO WOULD THAT BE?

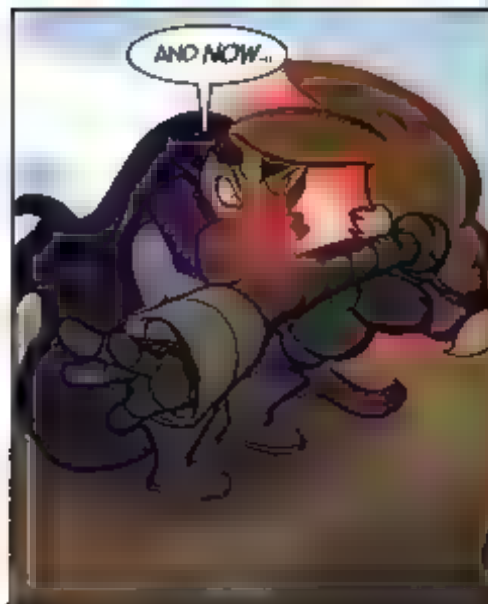
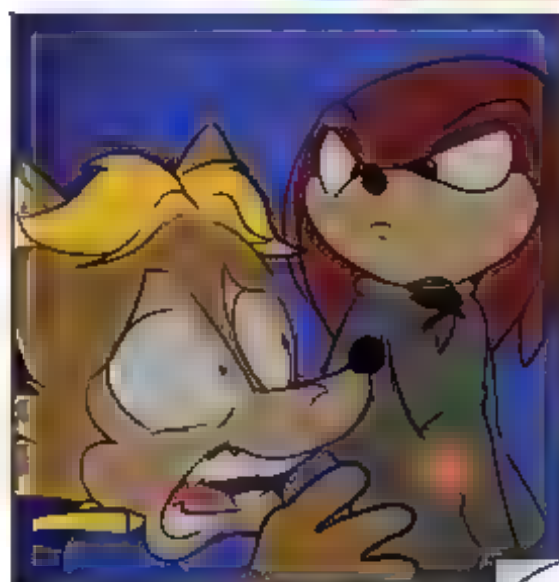
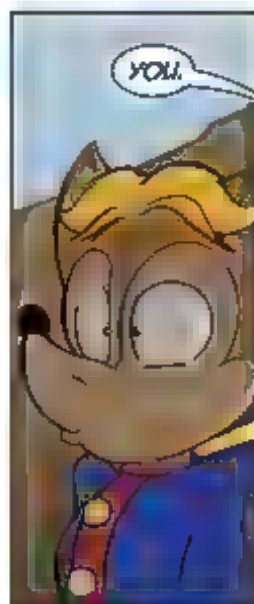
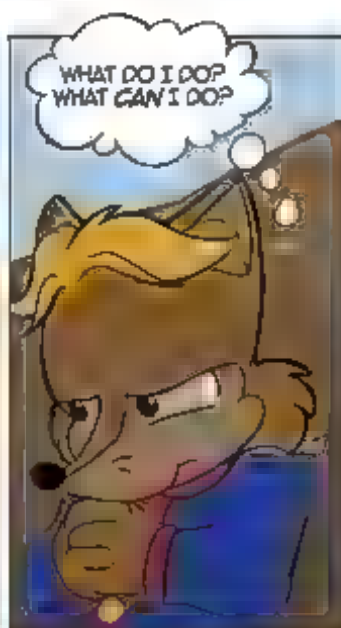
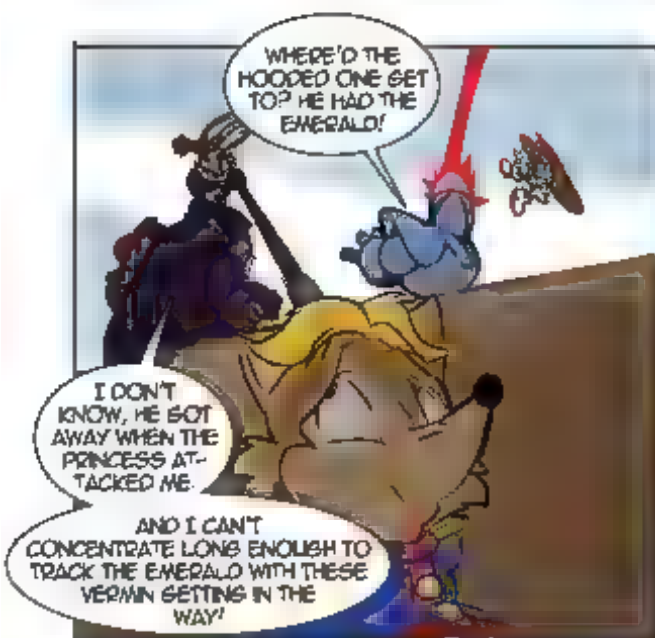


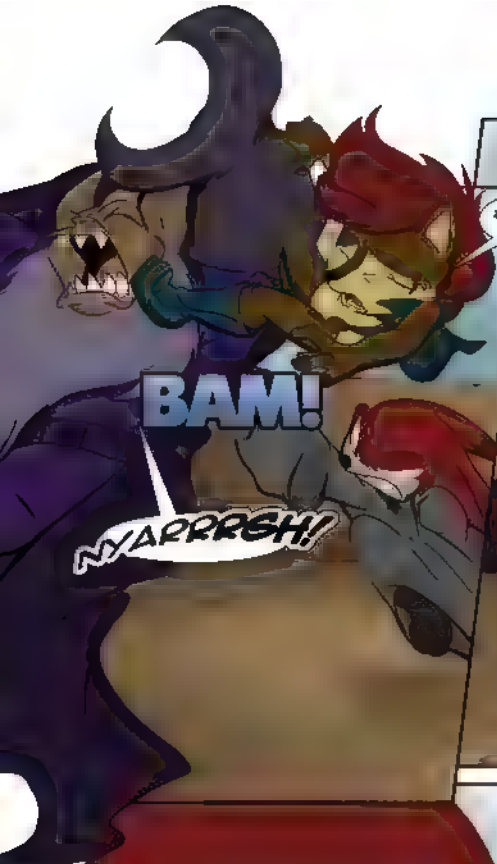












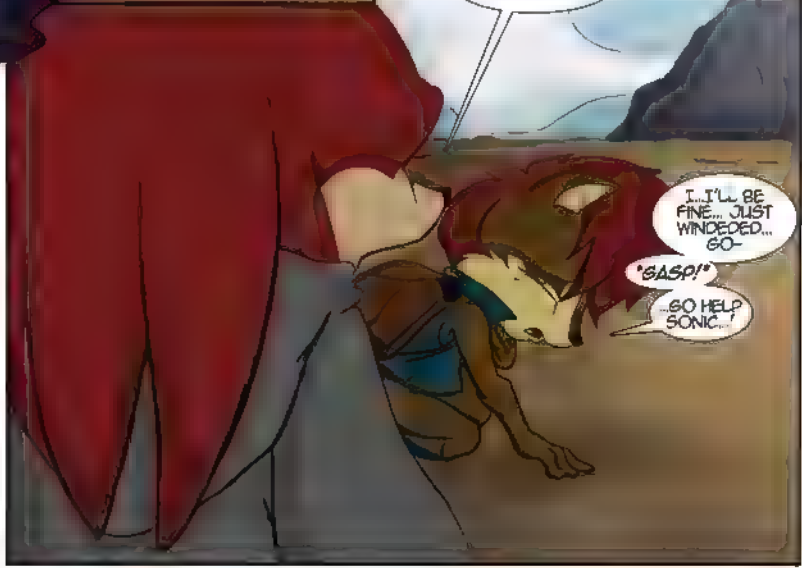
BAM!

NYARRRSH!



"GASP!"

SCREEEE!

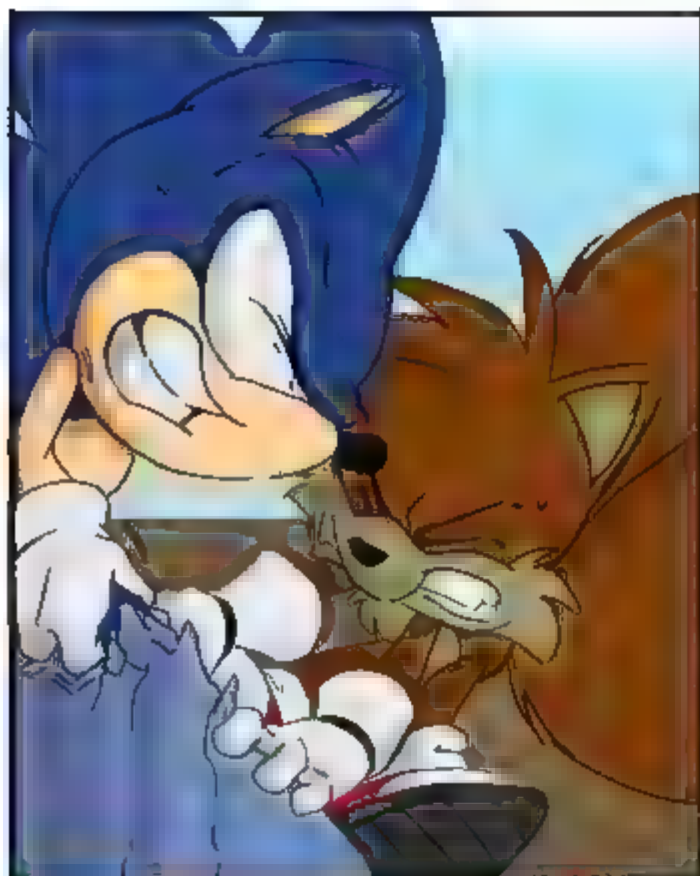


ARE YOU OK?

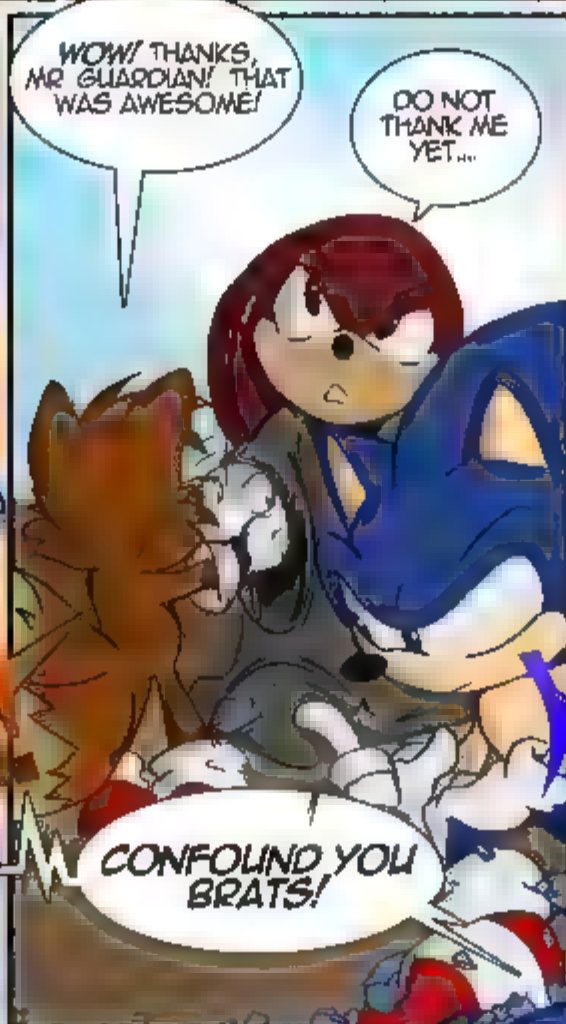
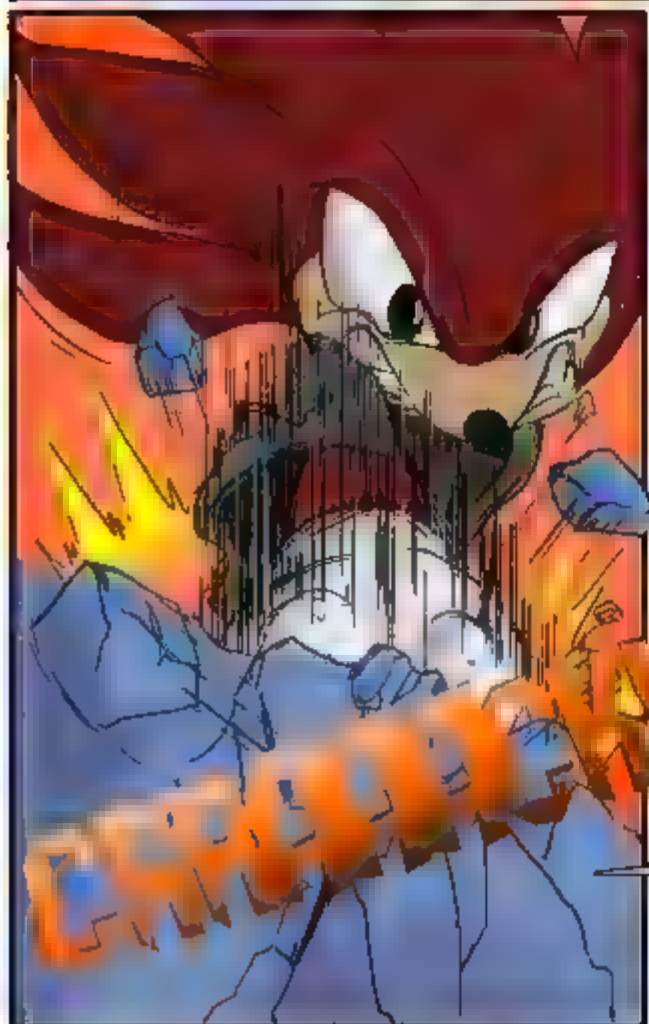
I...I'LL BE FINE... JUST WINDED... GO-

"GASP!"

GO HELP SONIC!



LET ME TAKE IT FROM HERE, YOUNG ONE.



WOW! THANKS, MR GUARDIAN! THAT WAS AWESOME!

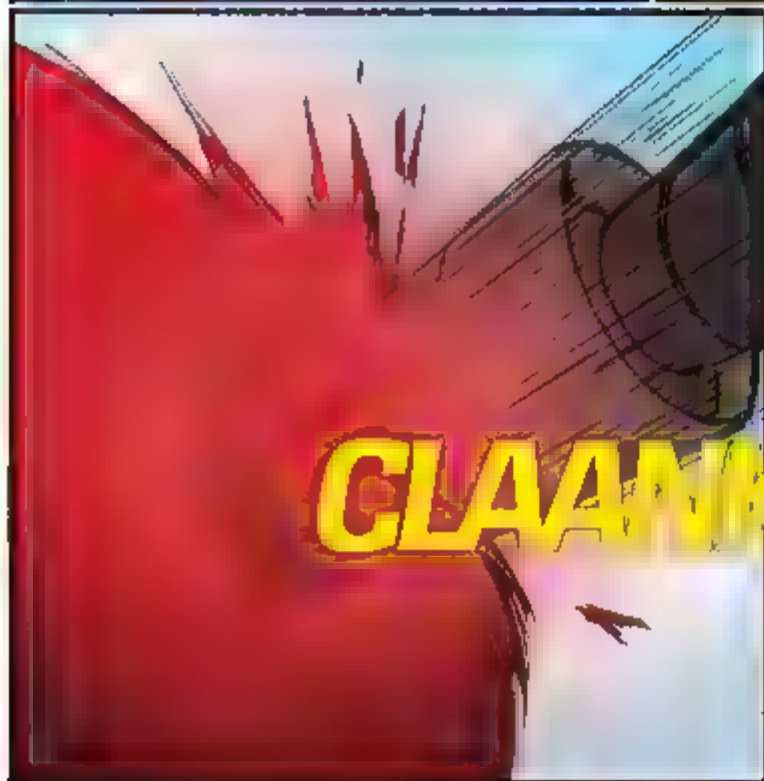
DO NOT THANK ME YET...

CONFOUND YOU BRATS!



DON'T YOU KNOW WHEN TO JUST ROLL OVER AND DIE!?

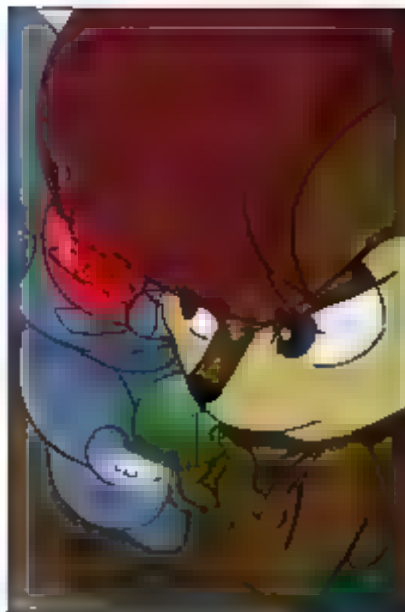
YKKKKKKRRP!



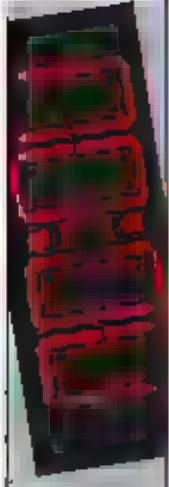
CLAAANK

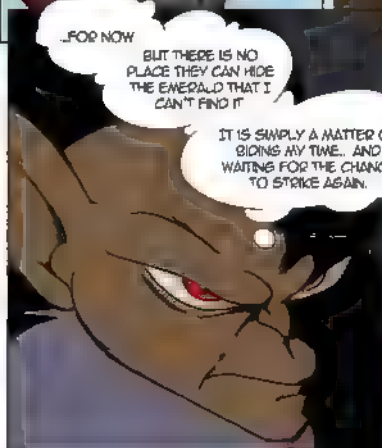
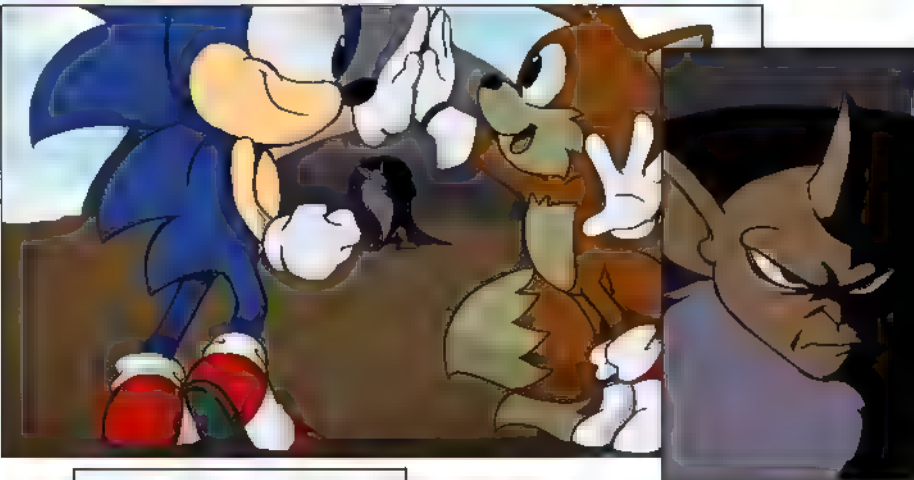


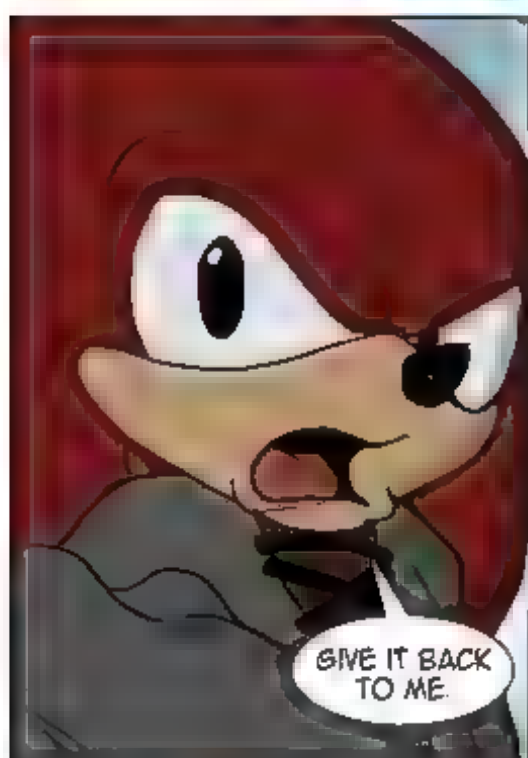
GUESS WE MISSED THAT CLASS, NEEDLENOSE!

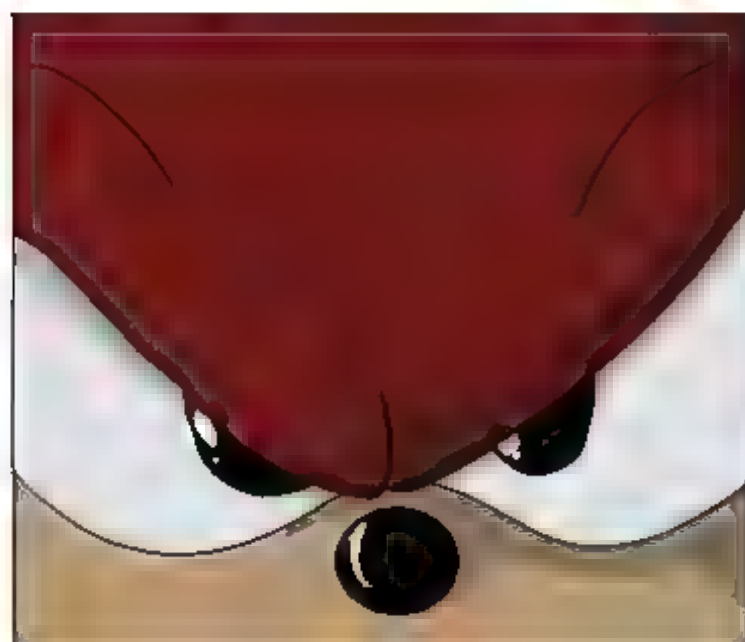
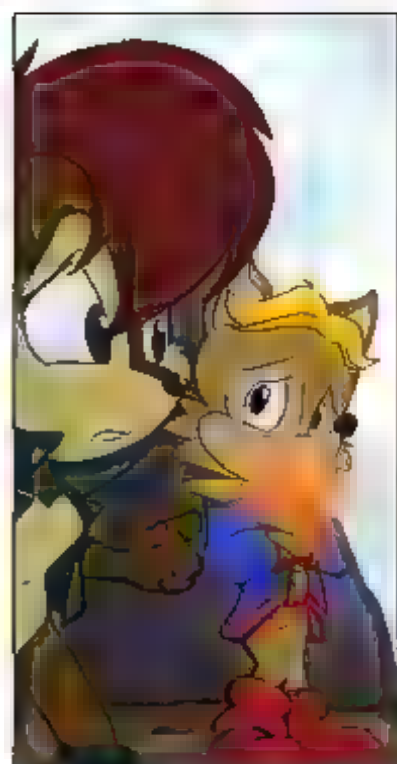
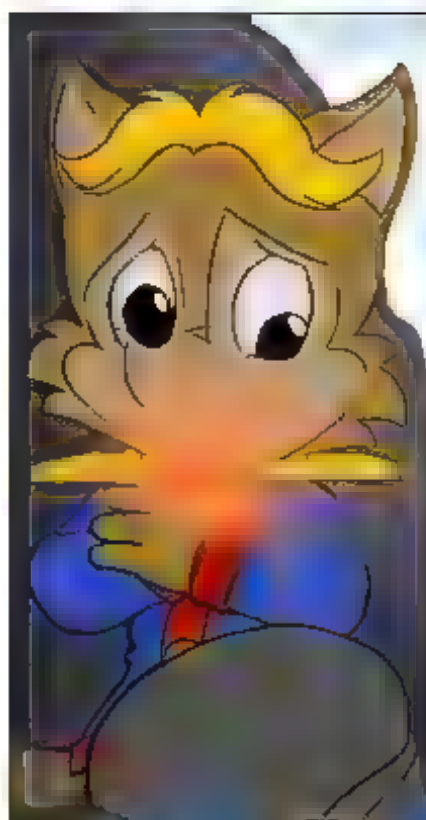
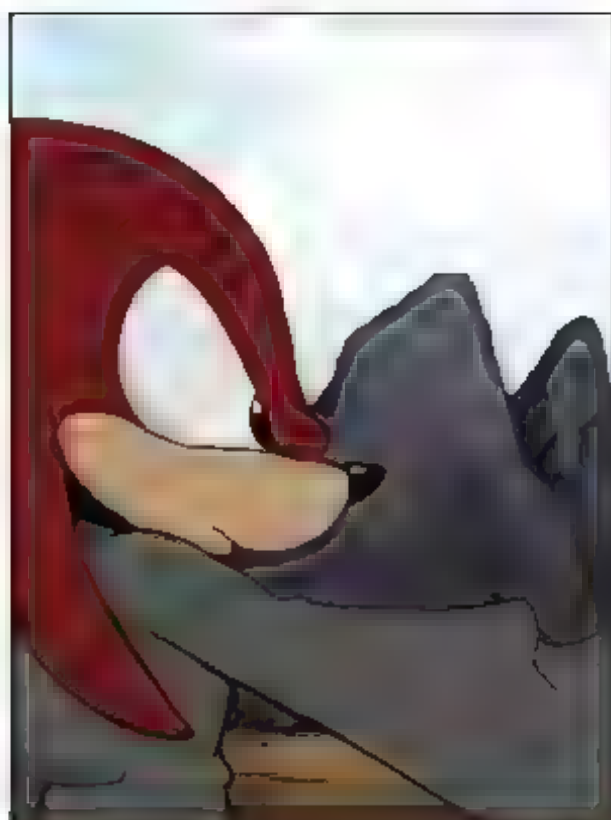


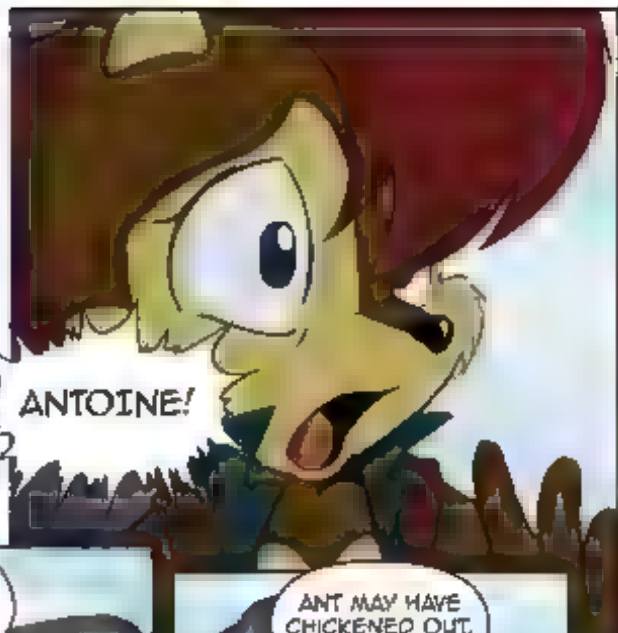
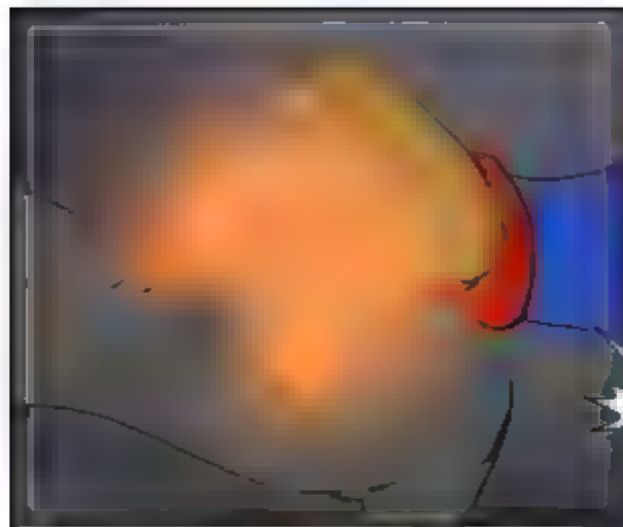
BEEP











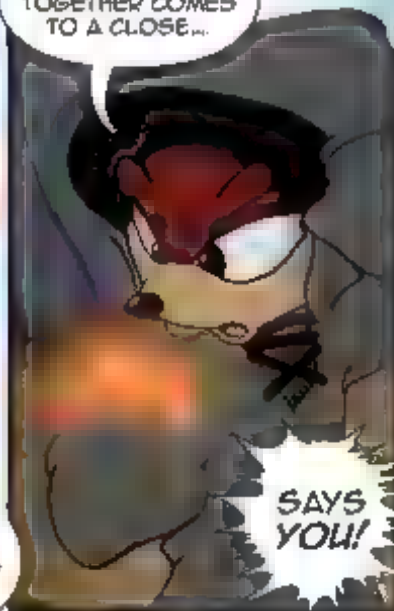
ANTOINE!

FORGIVE ME,
MY PRINCESS...
BUT I CANNOT BE
THINKING OF ANY WAY
IN OUR HAVING THAT
COULD STOP THE
NALIGUS



I BELIEVE
THE GUARDIAN
IS TRAGICALLY
CORRECT

AND SO
OUR BUSINESS
TOGETHER COMES
TO A CLOSE...



SAYS
YOU!

ANT MAY HAVE
CHICKENED OUT,
BUT I SAY-!



YOUR LEGS
ARE FRIGID FROM
NALIGUS' CRYSTAL
SPELL,

YOUR
PRINCESS WAS
NEARLY CHOKED
TO DEATH,

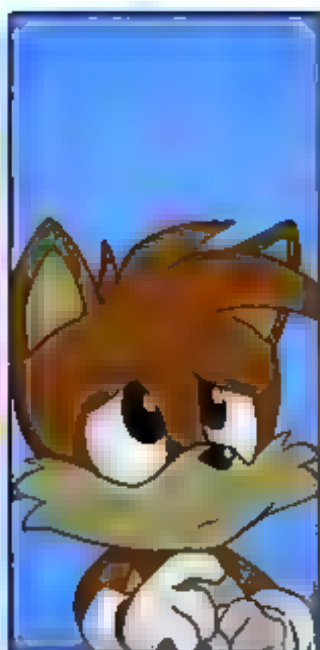
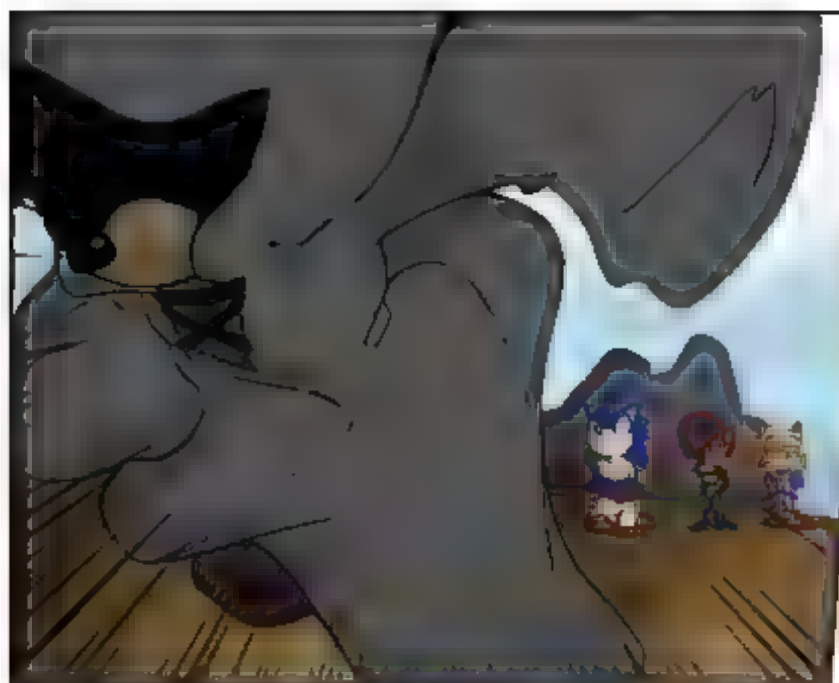
AND YOUR
RABBIT FRIEND HAS
BEEN BADLY HURT



I THOUGHT SO
FAREWELL... FOR
NOW

DO YOU
REALLY WISH TO
PICK A FIGHT WITH
ME NOW?





KNOTHOLE...

YOU CAN'T
SLEEP EITHER,
SAL?

I'VE BEEN
TRYING TO FIGURE
OUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH
NICOLE SINCE WE GOT
BACK, ACTUALLY.

WHAT'S YOUR
EXCUSE?

WELL FER
ONE TH'NG, ROTOR'S
STILL FIXIN' BUNNIE'S
ARM UP SO I WANTED
TO CHECK IN ON
THAT.

BUT I ALSO
WANTED TO MAKE
SURE YOU WERE
OKAY

I... I THINK I WILL
BE. THANK YOU
FOR YOUR.

id7721

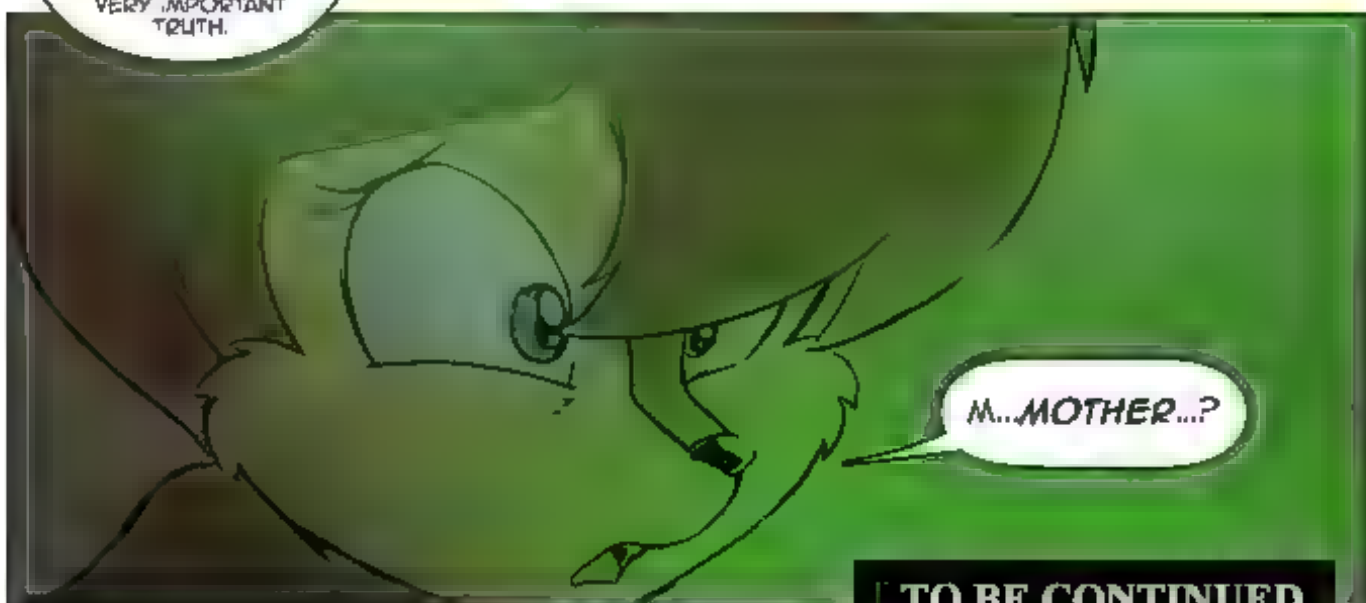
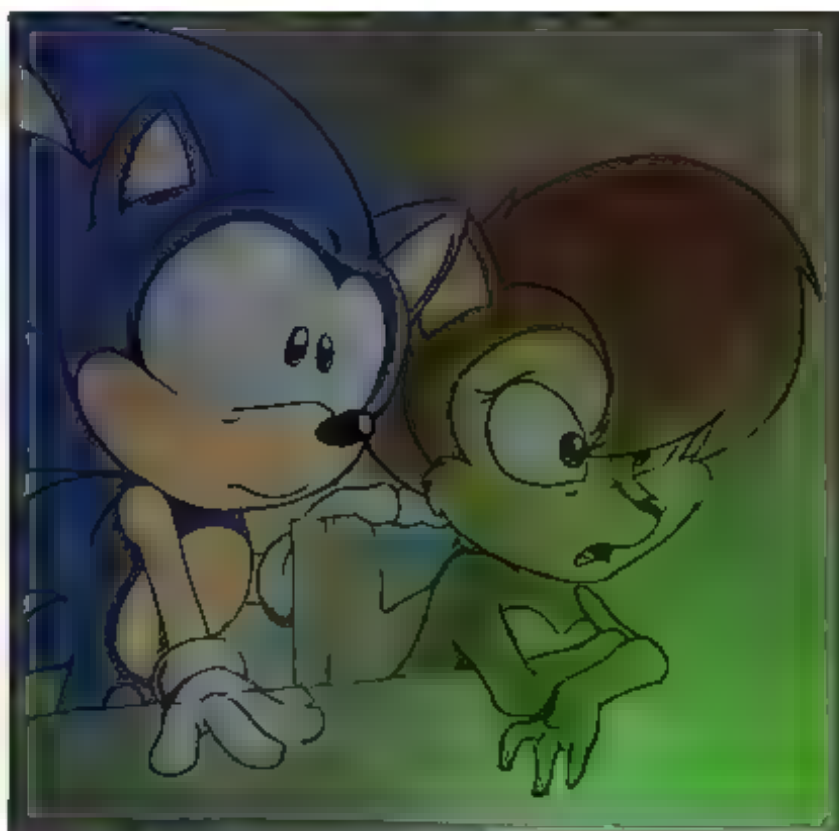
SECURITY PROTOCOLS
COMPLETE. ACTIVATE FILE. STAR'S
GUIDANCE.

STAR'S
GUIDANCE? I'VE
NEVER SEEN THAT
FILE BEFORE...!



HELLO,
MY DEAREST
DAUGHTER.

I AM QUEEN
NICOLE ACORN, AND IF
YOU ARE SEEING THIS
MESSAGE, IT MEANS
THE TIME HAS COME
FOR YOU TO LEARN A
VERY IMPORTANT
TRUTH.



M...MOTHER...?

TO BE CONTINUED



Head Writer and Story Developer E. Mason

Lead Illustrator and Designer Steven Wood

Head Producer and Editor of Main Chapters Paul Scott

Head Producers and Editors of Side Story's Paul Scott, John Roberts

Producers and Directors of Sea3on and FUS: Paul Scott and John Roberts

Download Organizer Douglas G. Bigelow (TheRedAuthor)

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<http://www.sonicsatam.com/linking.php> Remember, linking to us helps give Sea3on popularity and more fans. The more fans, the better we get.

Thank you,

For further talk on Sea3on, please join the FUS forums:

<http://sonicsatam.com/forums/>

WE ARE PARTNER

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
SEASON



Sonic the Hedgehog and Nicole are shown from the chest up, positioned behind the 'SONIC' text. Nicole is on the left, looking towards the right. Sonic is on the right, looking forward with his hand near his mouth. The background consists of yellow and black diagonal stripes radiating from behind the characters.

SONIC

3
★ SEASON ★

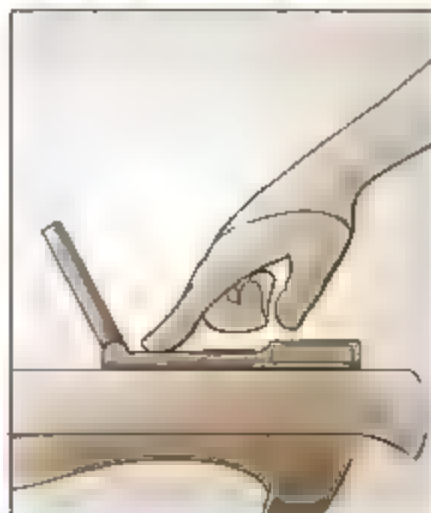
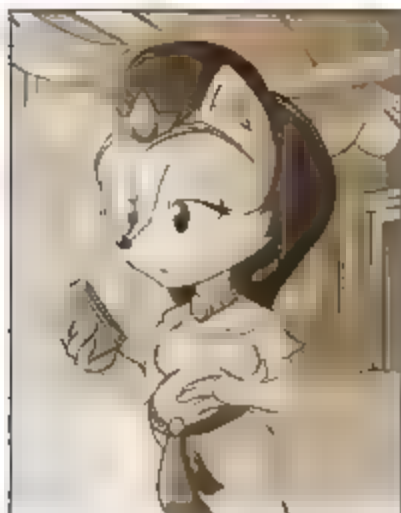
Chapter 5

The Hunt Begins, Part Two: The Tale of Nicole



SEASON

FANS' UNITED FOR
S'ATAM





SEASON

The Hunt Begins, Part Two: The Tale of Nicole



Written by Eric Mason
Illustrated by Steven Wood
Edited by Paul Scott and John Roberts
Based on the "Sonic the Hedgehog" cartoon,
characters owned by DIC and SEGA

WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE, SAL?

ONE SECOND
NICOLE'S GLITCHIN' OUT ON
YA, THE NEXT SHE'S SHOWIN'
A HOLOGRAM OF SOME LADY
SAVING SHE'S YOUR
MOM?

I... I DON'T
KNOW...

TRANSLATION
COMPLETE: "BY STAR'S
GUIDANCE, BY SUN'S
PROTECTION."

UNLESS-!

PASSWORD ACCEPTED.
SECURITY PROTOCOLS
ENGAGED.

THE PASSAGE
NICOLE TRANSLATED
FROM THE SANCTUM OF
THE WIND CRYSTAL.

BEST TO
START AT THE
BEGINNING,
SO THAT-

ACKNOWLEDGED,
MY MAIN 'WOG

-YOU MA-

HEY NICOLE,
COULD YOU PAUSE THIS OR
SOMETHIN'? I THINK WE NEED
A SECOND HERE

VVRRRR



SAL,
YOU OK?

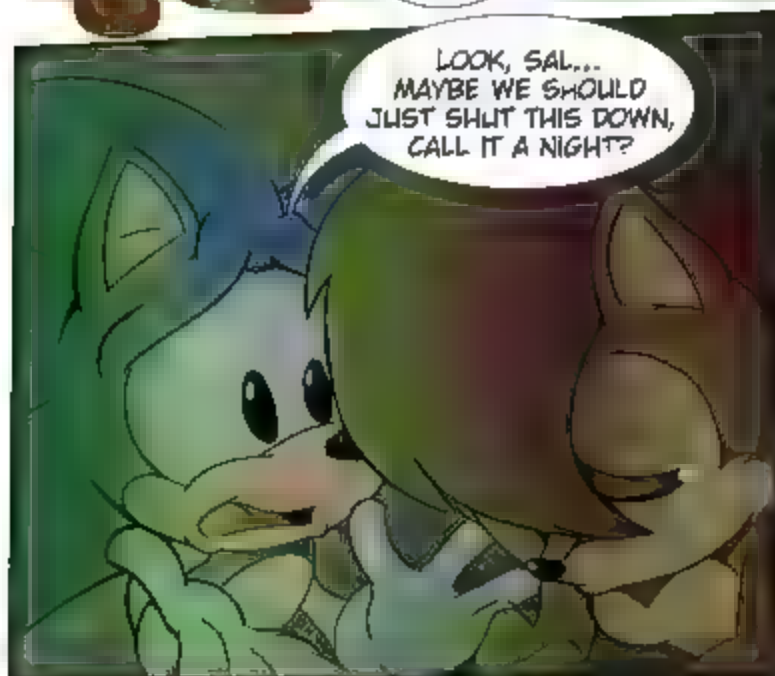
I...
I DON'T
KNOW.



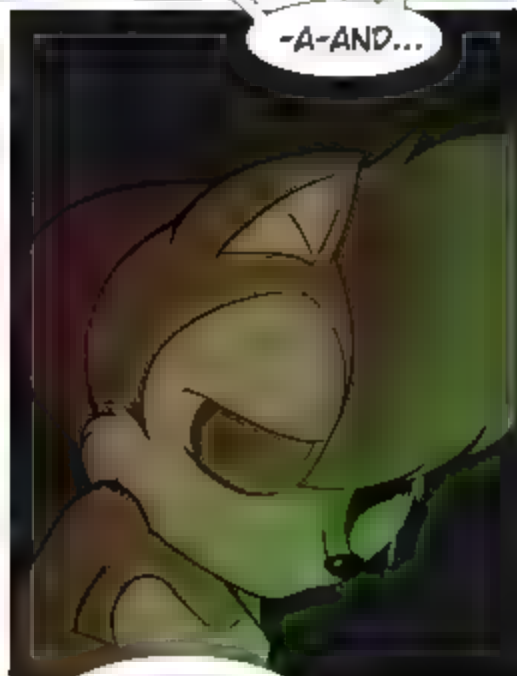
THIS...I MEAN,
SHE...SONIC, I NEVER
KNEW MY MOTHER. I
NEVER EVEN KNEW HER
NAME.



SHE
DIED SHORTLY AFTER I
WAS BORN, AND-



LOOK, SAL...
MAYBE WE SHOULD
JUST SHUT THIS DOWN,
CALL IT A NIGHT?



-A-AND...

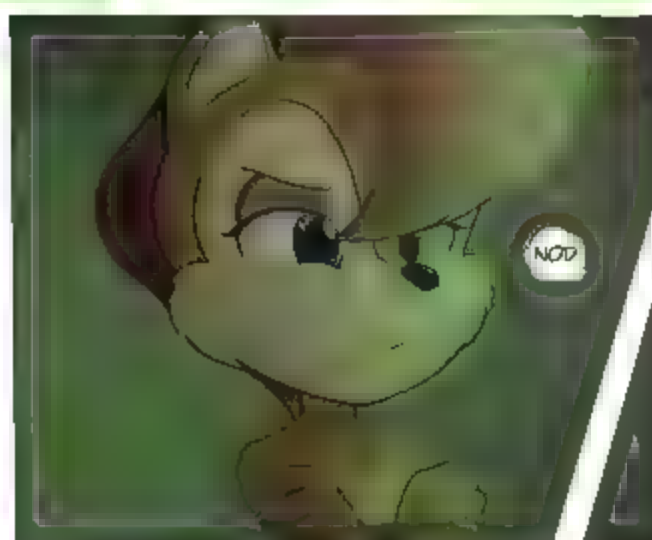
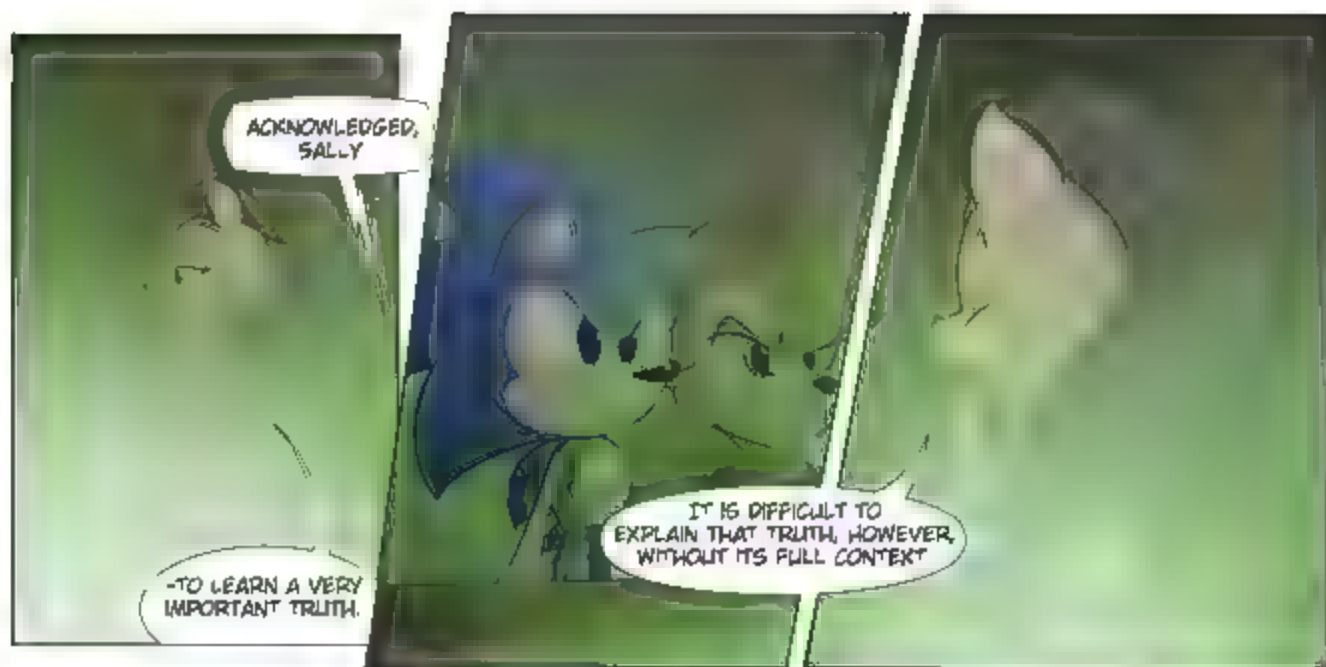


NO.

SHE
SAID THERE WAS
AN "IMPORTANT TRUTH" WE
NEEDED TO LEARN...AND IT WAS
A PASSAGE FROM MAGA THAT
TRIGGERED HER MESSAGE.

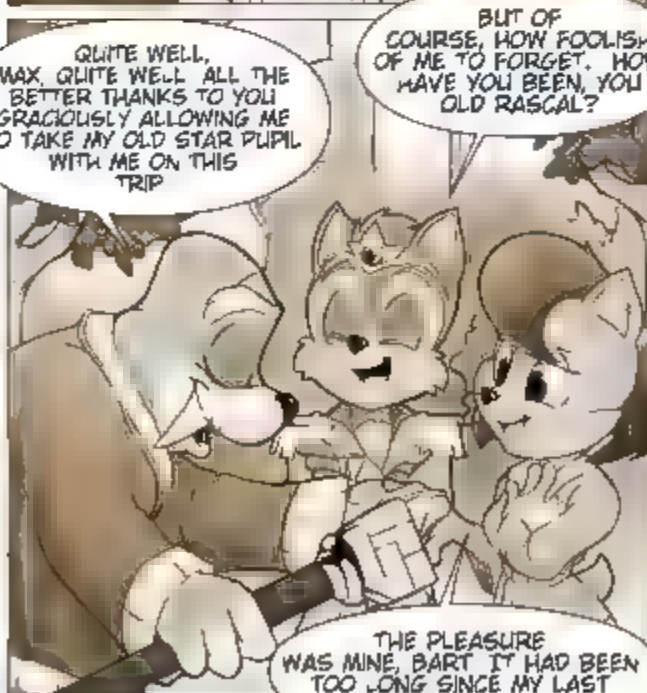
WE NEED
TO HEAR WHAT SHE
HAS TO SAY.

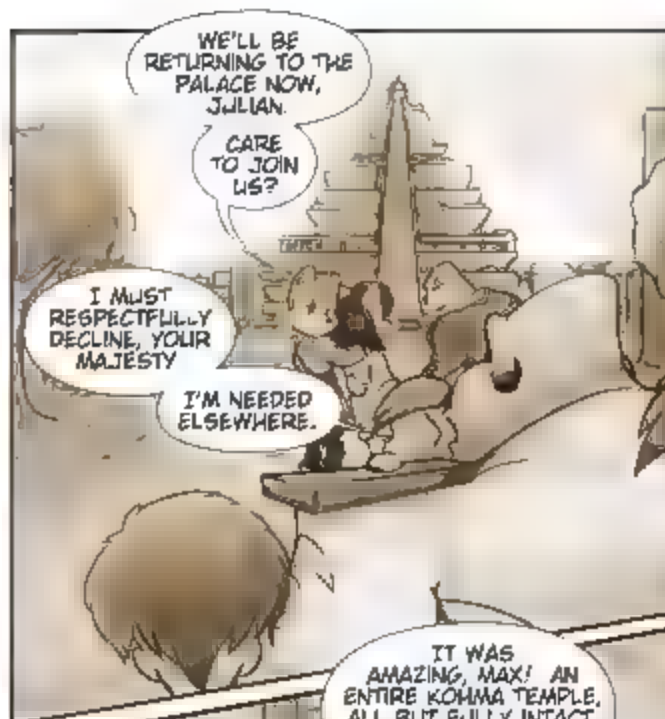
NICOLE,
REWIND MESSAGE
AND RESUME





MANY PROBABLY THOUGHT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITIONS LIKE THE KIND BART AND I HAD GONE ON TO BE FRIVOLOUS IN A TIME OF WAR.



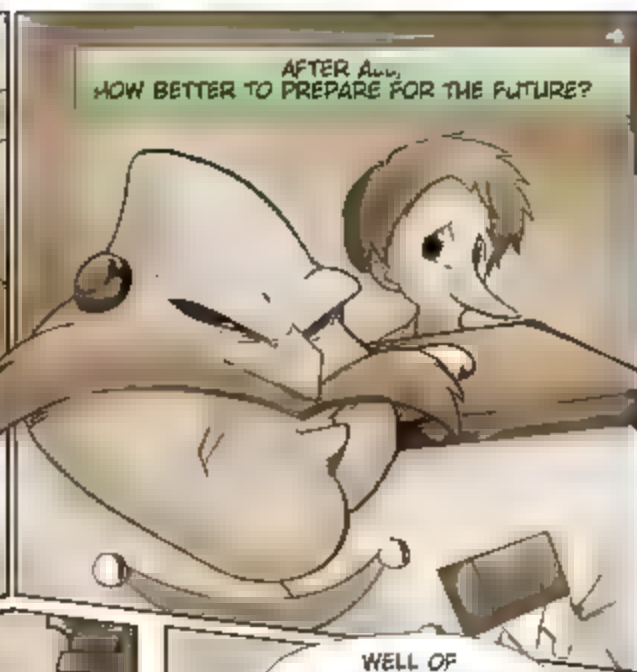


WE'LL BE RETURNING TO THE PALACE NOW, JULIAN.

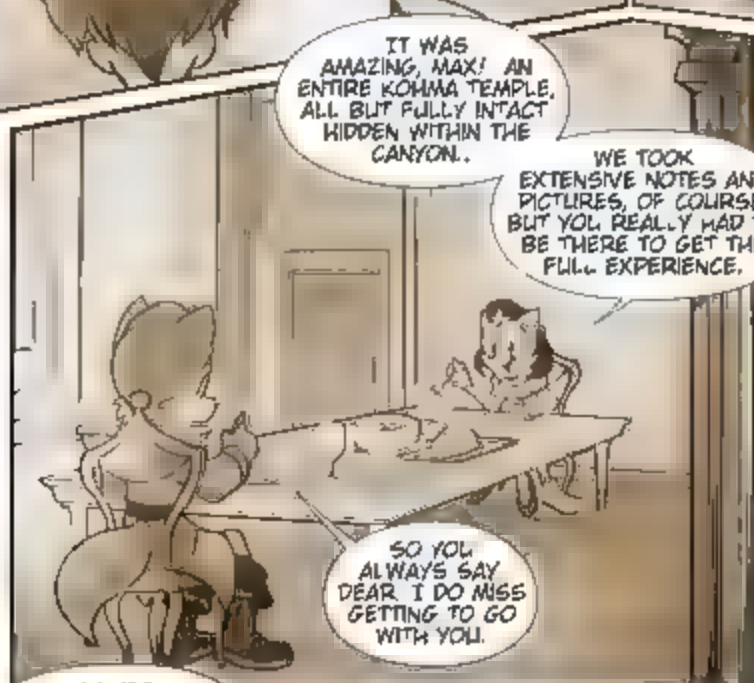
CARE TO JOIN US?

I MUST RESPECTFULLY DECLINE, YOUR MAJESTY

I'M NEEDED ELSEWHERE.



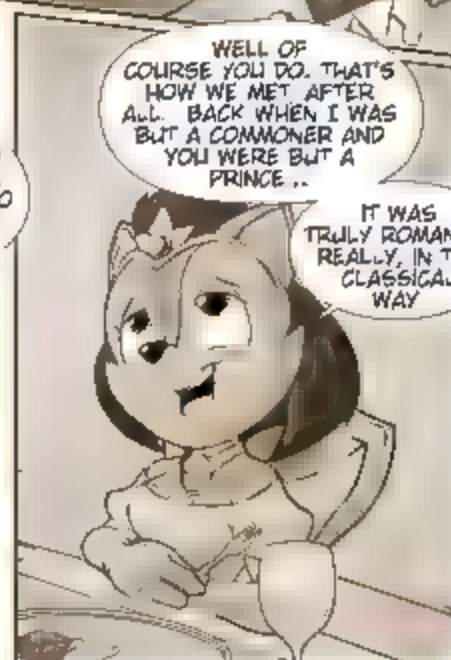
AFTER ALL, HOW BETTER TO PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE?



IT WAS AMAZING, MAX! AN ENTIRE KOMMA TEMPLE, ALL BUT FULLY INTACT HIDDEN WITHIN THE CANYON.

WE TOOK EXTENSIVE NOTES AND PICTURES, OF COURSE, BUT YOU REALLY HAD TO BE THERE TO GET THE FULL EXPERIENCE.

SO YOU ALWAYS SAY DEAR I DO MISS GETTING TO GO WITH YOU.



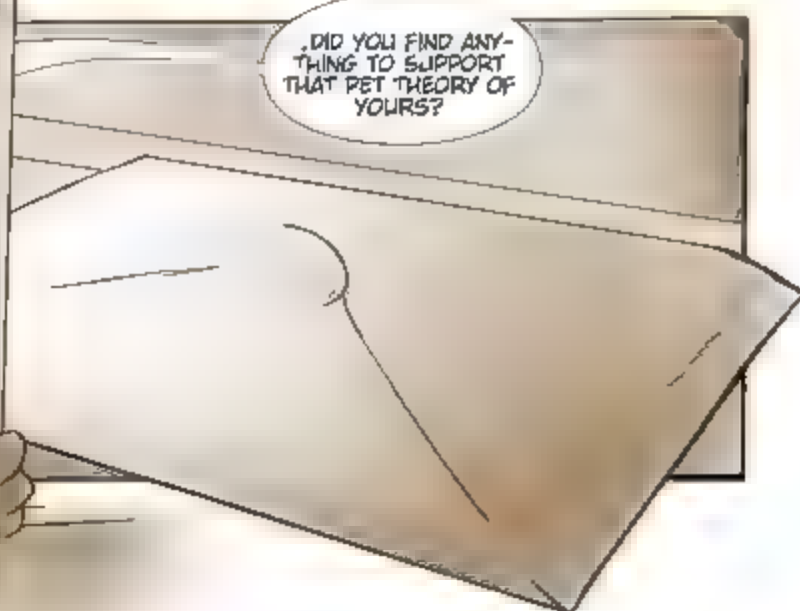
WELL OF COURSE YOU DO. THAT'S HOW WE MET AFTER ALL. BACK WHEN I WAS BUT A COMMONER AND YOU WERE BUT A PRINCE..

IT WAS TRULY ROMANTIC, REALLY, IN THE CLASSICAL WAY

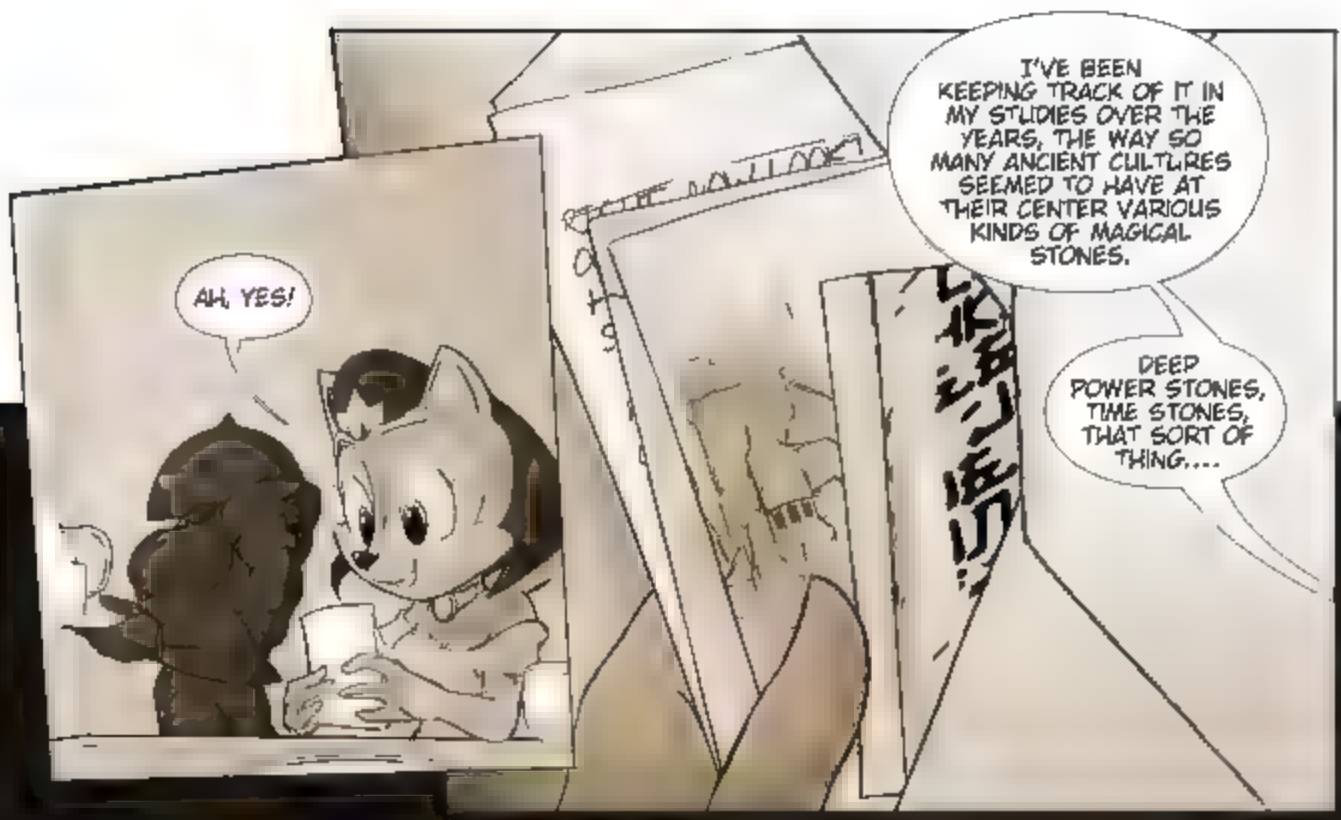


AH YES, THOSE WERE THE DAYS OF COURSE AS I RECALL, YOU WERE THE ONE WHO MADE THE FIRST MOVE.

SO, TELL ME.



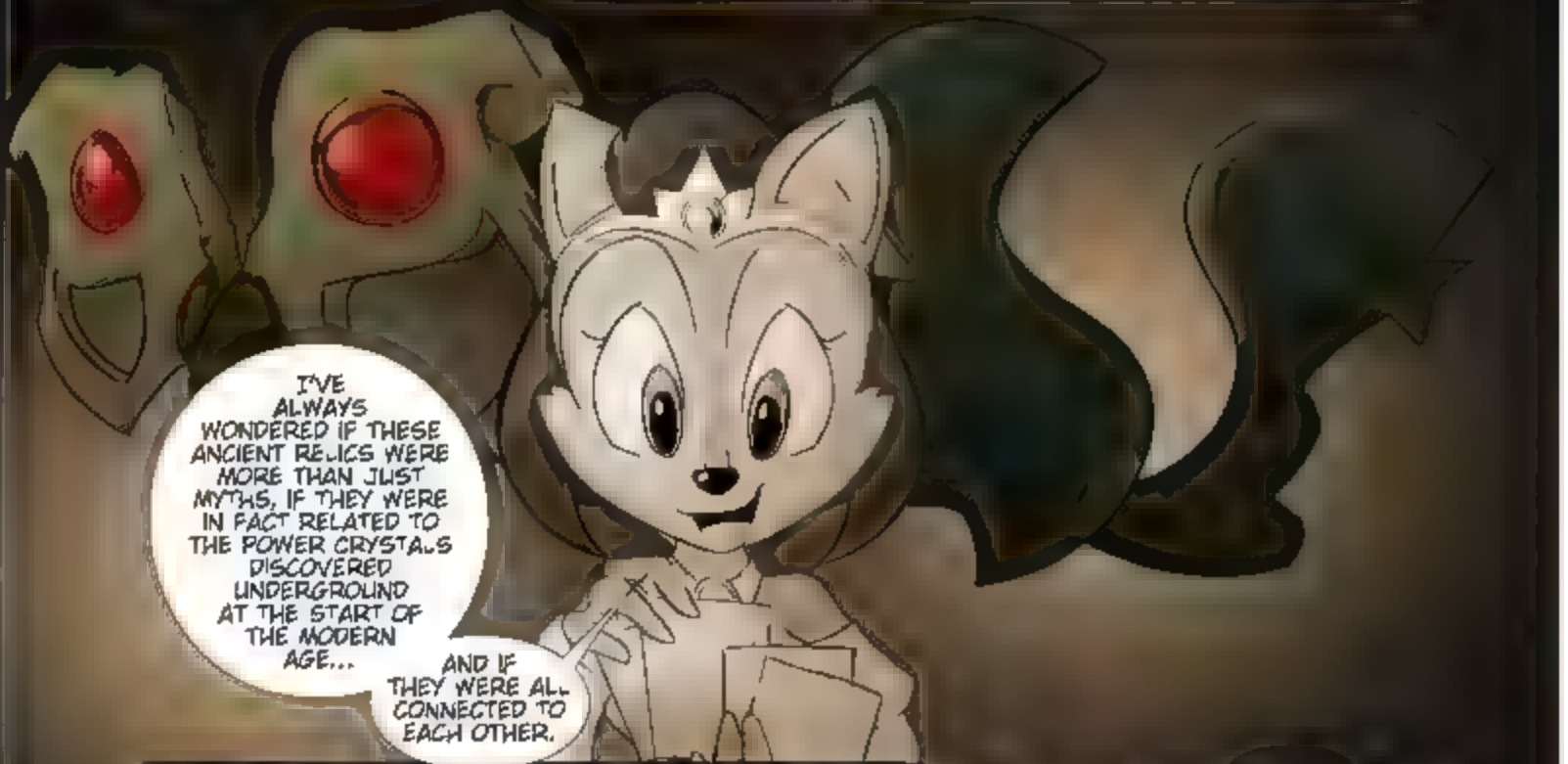
DID YOU FIND ANYTHING TO SUPPORT THAT PET THEORY OF YOURS?



AH, YES!

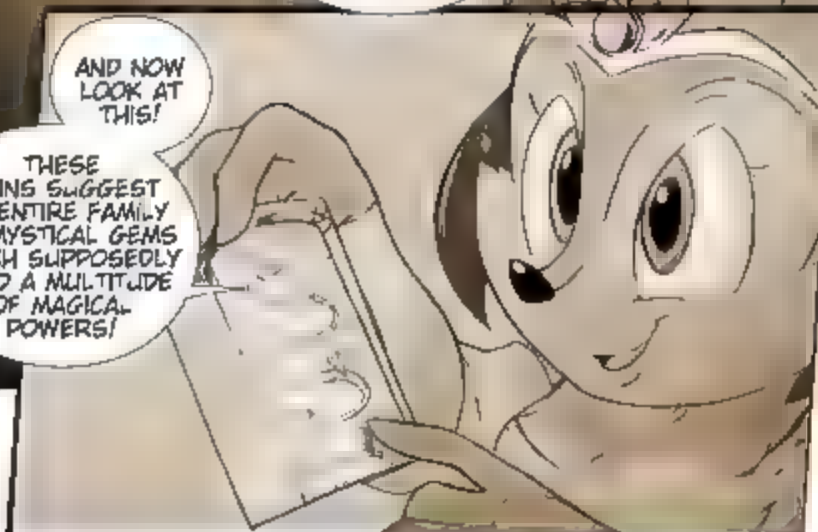
I'VE BEEN
KEEPING TRACK OF IT IN
MY STUDIES OVER THE
YEARS, THE WAY SO
MANY ANCIENT CULTURES
SEEMED TO HAVE AT
THEIR CENTER VARIOUS
KINDS OF MAGICAL
STONES.

DEEP
POWER STONES,
TIME STONES,
THAT SORT OF
THING....



I'VE
ALWAYS
WONDERED IF THESE
ANCIENT RELICS WERE
MORE THAN JUST
MYTHS, IF THEY WERE
IN FACT RELATED TO
THE POWER CRYSTALS
DISCOVERED
UNDERGROUND
AT THE START OF
THE MODERN
AGE...

AND IF
THEY WERE ALL
CONNECTED TO
EACH OTHER.



AND NOW
LOOK AT
THIS!

THESE
RUINS SUGGEST
AN ENTIRE FAMILY
OF MYSTICAL GEMS
WHICH SUPPOSEDLY
HELD A MULTITUDE
OF MAGICAL
POWERS!



HM...

YOU
ALWAYS HAVE
HAD A TALENT
FOR DISCOVERY,
DEAR.

BAM!

FOR ALL THESE GEOGRAPHICALLY AND CHRONOLOGICALLY SEPARATED CULTURES TO HAVE SUCH OVERLAP IN THEIR CORE MYTHOLOGIES-

IT MEANS THERE'S A STRONG POSSIBILITY THEY COULD ALL BE TALKING ABOUT THE SAME THING, AND THAT THING COULD BE REAL!

I'M SERIOUS, MAX!

CLANG
CLANG
CLANG

ALL LEGENDS HAVE SOME BASIS IN FACT DARLING, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME THAT

I THINK YOU MIGHT BE GETTING AHEAD OF YOURSELF A LITTLE BIT, THOUGH.

W-WELL YES, WE STILL NEED MORE RESEARCH, BUT EVEN SO...

PARDDONEZ-MOI, YOUR MAJESTY, BUT WE HAVE NEWS FROM THE SOUTHERN FRONT.

THE WAR CLAWS, BELPOIS?

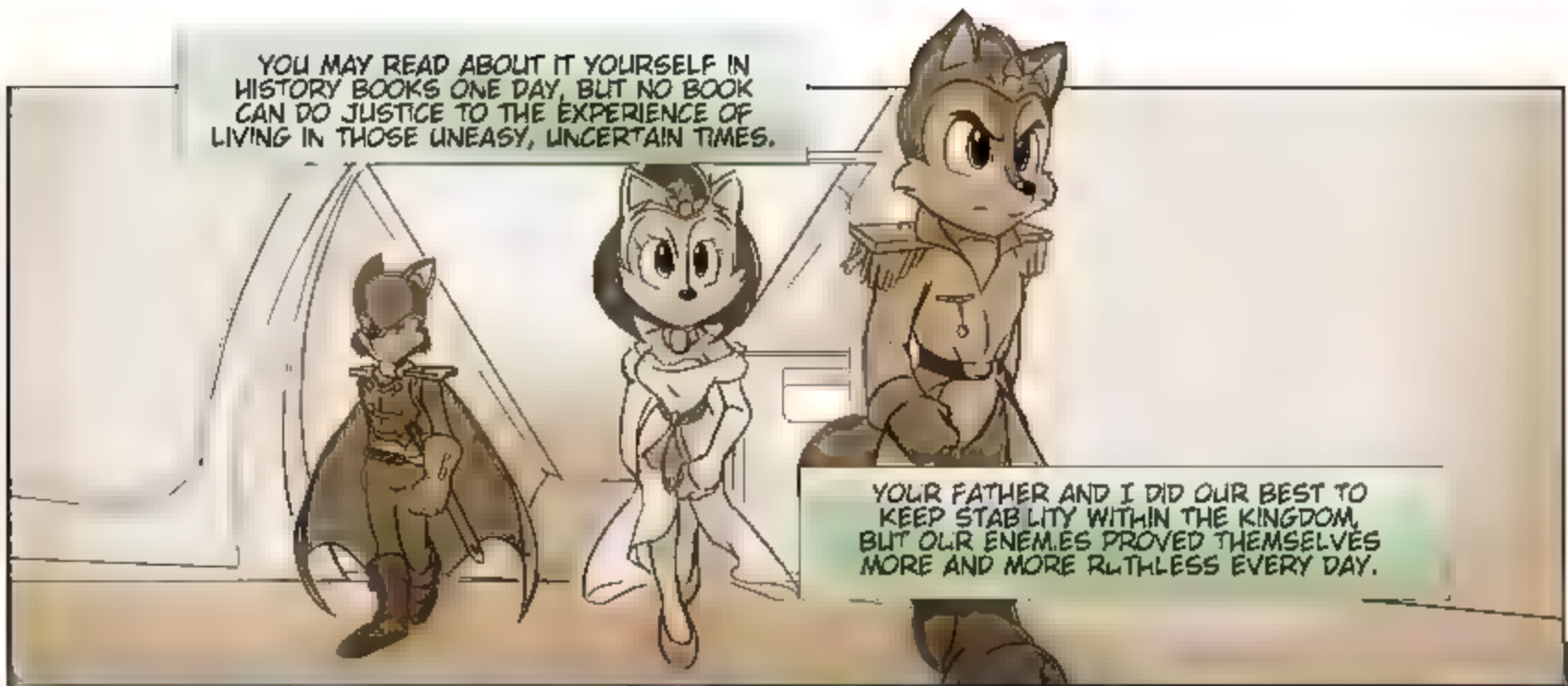
OUI, SIRE.

OUR INTELLIGENCE BELIEVES THEY MAY BE PREPARING A MAJOR ATTACK.

APOLOGIES, MY DEAR, BUT I'M AFRAID DINNER WILL HAVE TO BE CUT SHORT

I UNDERSTAND, MAX. LET'S GO!

YOU MAY READ ABOUT IT YOURSELF IN HISTORY BOOKS ONE DAY, BUT NO BOOK CAN DO JUSTICE TO THE EXPERIENCE OF LIVING IN THOSE UNEASY, UNCERTAIN TIMES.



YOUR FATHER AND I DID OUR BEST TO KEEP STABILITY WITHIN THE KINGDOM, BUT OUR ENEMIES PROVED THEMSELVES MORE AND MORE RUTHLESS EVERY DAY.

IT'S AN EXPERIENCE I HOPE YOU NEVER HAVE TO LEARN, MY DAUGHTER...

SO MUCH FOR THAT...

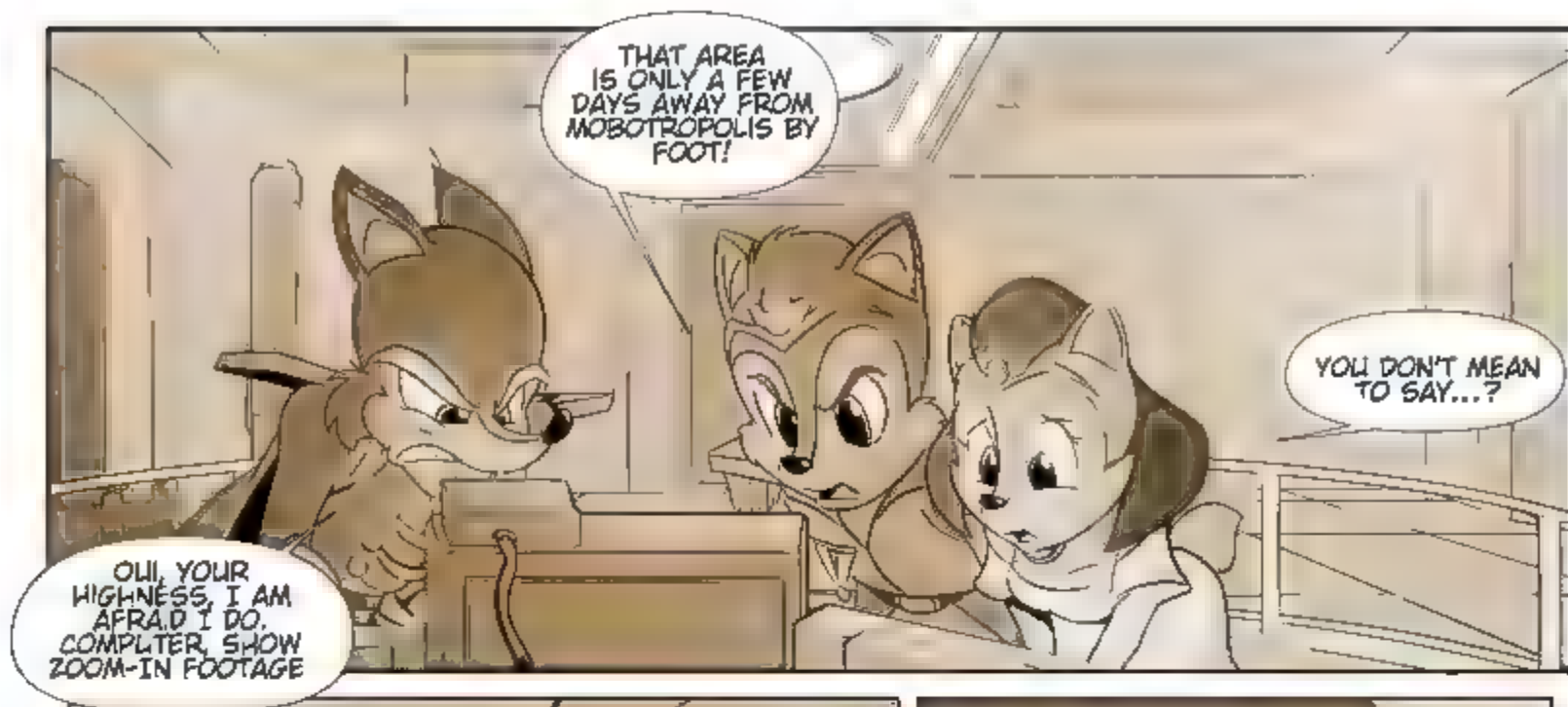
...EVEN IF I FEAR, INEVITABLY, YOU ONE DAY WILL.



THAT DAY IN PARTICULAR, HOWEVER, CARRIED GRAVE NEWS.

ONE OF MINISTER JULIAN'S SENTRY DRONES CAPTURED THIS VIDEO FOOTAGE JUST A FEW HOURS AGO.





THEY MAY BE PLANNING A SMALL-SCALE INFILTRATION, PERHAPS. OR THEY COULD BE TRYING TO MISDIRECT OUR ATTENTION...

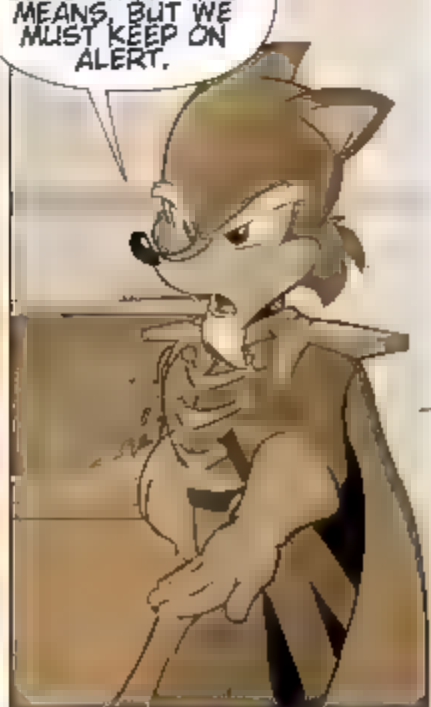
WHY WOULD THEY RISK GETTING THIS CLOSE TO THE CAPITAL? THEY KNOW HOW WELL-GUARDED IT IS.

SOYEZ ASSURE, MY LIEGE, ALL GUARD DRONES HAVE BEEN PLACED ON FULL ALERT, AND MY MEN IN THE FIELD ARE TRYING TO GATHER FURTHER INFORMATION.

HEARING THE GENERAL'S WORDS... SEEING THAT IMAGE... IT REMINDED ME OF HOW VULNERABLE THE SECURITY OF MOBOTROPOLIS REALLY COULD BE.

EITHER WAY, IT'S A CLEAR SIGN THEY'RE GETTING BOLDER.

FOR NOW, WE CANNOT SAY FOR SURE WHAT THIS MEANS, BUT WE MUST KEEP ON ALERT.

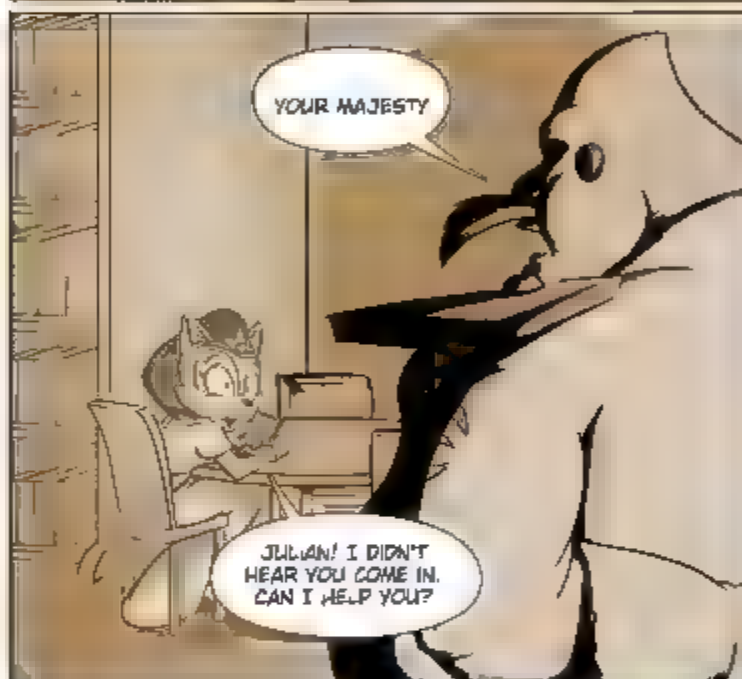
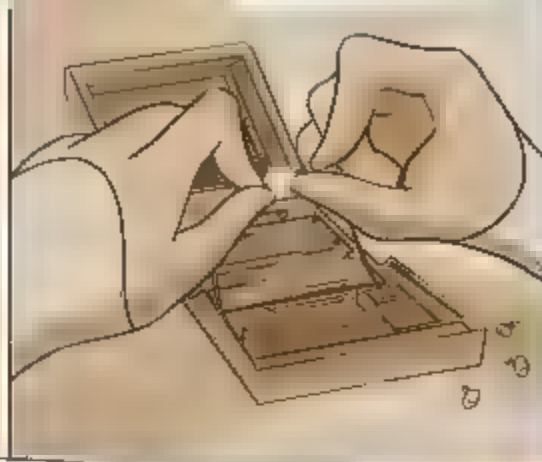
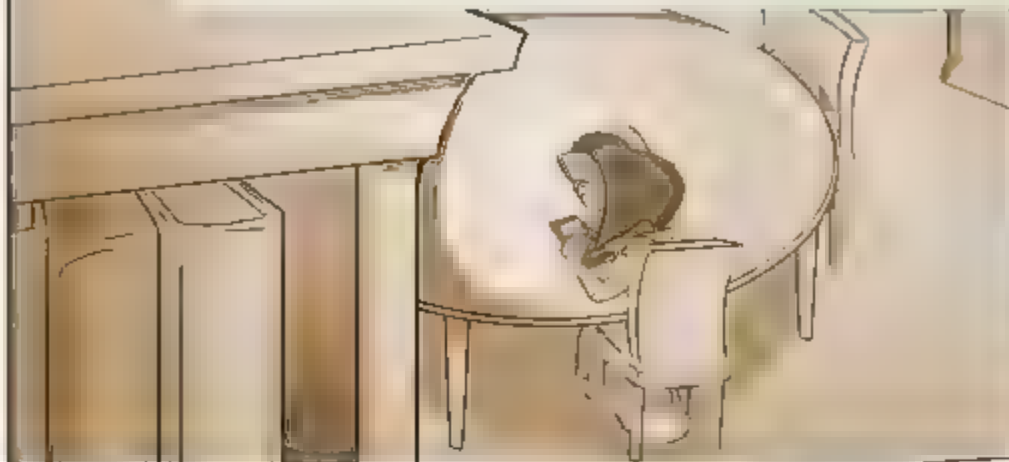


FORTUNATELY, I HAD BEEN WORKING ON AN IMPORTANT, PERSONAL PROJECT FOR GOOD WHILE BY THAT POINT

USING THE LESSONS IN COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY I HAD BEEN GIVEN BY SIR CHARLES HEDGEHOG, I WAS INTENT ON CREATING A COMPACT DEVICE WHICH COULD STORE AND ACCESS THE MULTITUDES OF CULTURAL INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE MY ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH HAD REVEALED, TO INSURE ITS PRESERVATION

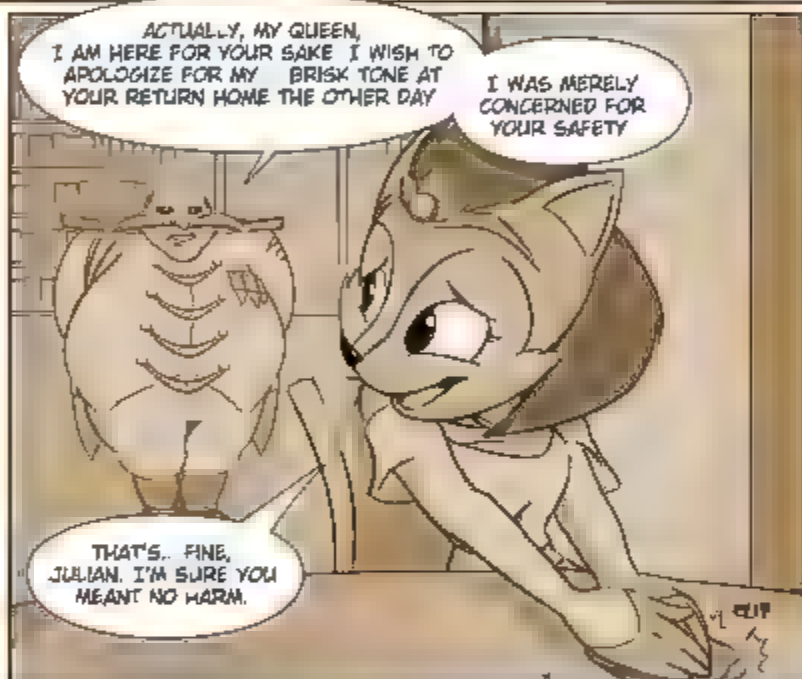
WITH TIME, HOWEVER, MY VISION FOR ITS FUNCTION HAD BEGUN TO EXPAND

I BEGAN TO WONDER IF IT COULD HELP PRESERVE THE CULTURE AND HISTORY OF MOBOTROPOLIS AS WELL



YOUR MAJESTY

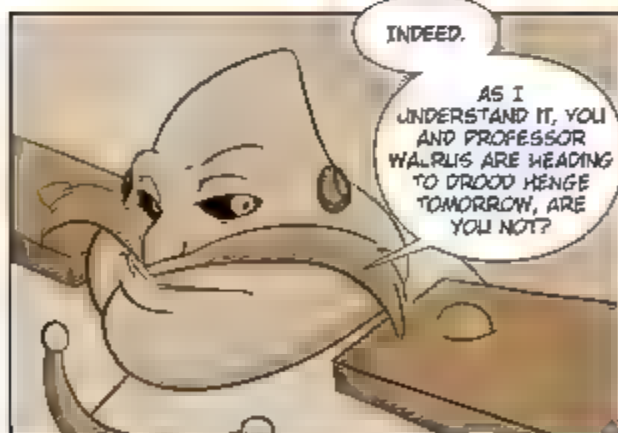
JULIAN! I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN. CAN I HELP YOU?



ACTUALLY, MY QUEEN, I AM HERE FOR YOUR SAKE. I WISH TO APOLOGIZE FOR MY BRISK TONE AT YOUR RETURN HOME THE OTHER DAY

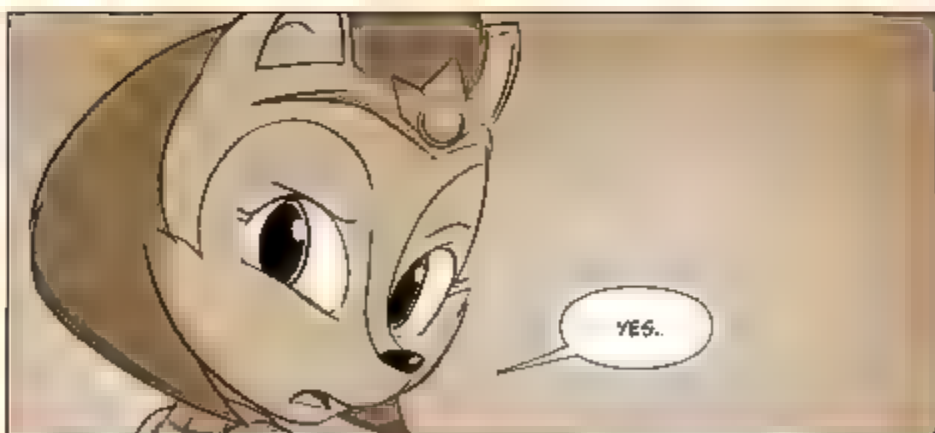
I WAS MERELY CONCERNED FOR YOUR SAFETY

THAT'S FINE, JULIAN. I'M SURE YOU MEANT NO HARM.



INDEED.

AS I UNDERSTAND IT, YOU AND PROFESSOR WALRUS ARE HEADING TO DROOD HEDGE TOMORROW, ARE YOU NOT?



YES.



SPLENDID

I TRUST YOU BOTH SHALL KEEP SAFE, THEN.



MAX. ?

MMM.

YES, DEAR?



HOW MUCH DO YOU TRUST WAR MINISTER JULIAN?

JULIAN. ?

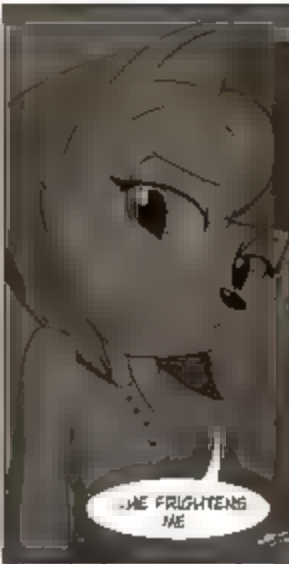
JULIAN IS NOT ONLY AN INDISPENSABLE ASSET IN OUR FIGHT WITH THE WAR CLAWS, HE HAS PROVEN HIMSELF A STALWICH ALLY AND A GOOD FRIEND



I WOULD TRUST HIM WITH MY LIFE



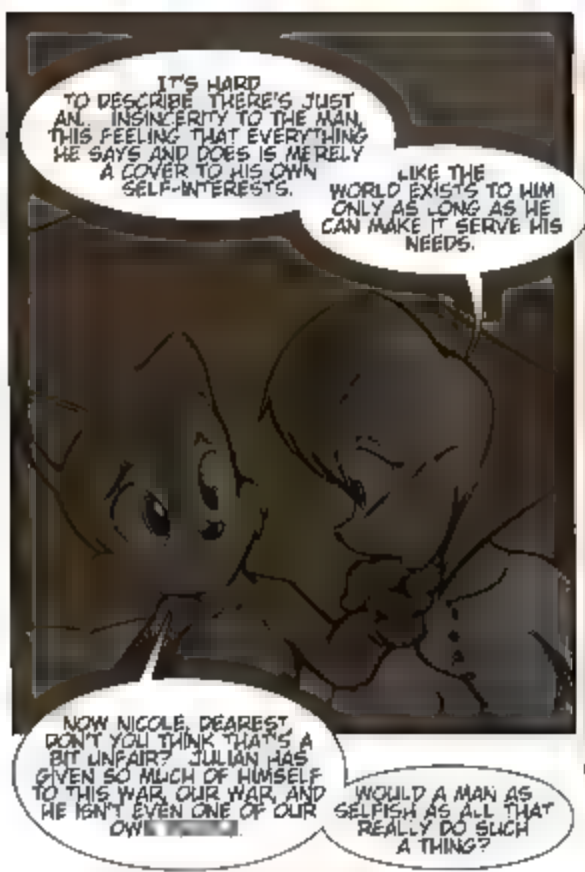
WHY DO YOU ASK?



HE FRIGHTENS ME



FRIGHTENS YOU, DEAR? WHY?

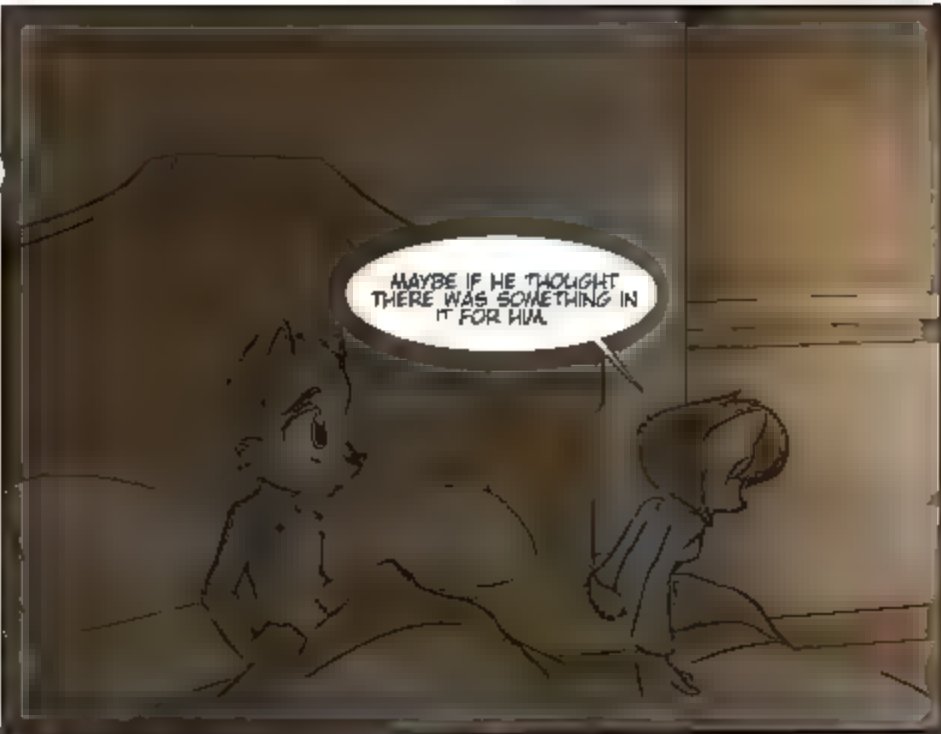


IT'S HARD TO DESCRIBE. THERE'S JUST AN INSINCERITY TO THE MAN. THIS FEELING THAT EVERYTHING HE SAYS AND DOES IS MERELY A COVER TO HIS OWN SELF-INTERESTS.

LIKE THE WORLD EXISTS TO HIM ONLY AS LONG AS HE CAN MAKE IT SERVE HIS NEEDS.

NOW NICOLE, DEAREST DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A BIT UNFAIR? JULIAN HAS GIVEN SO MUCH OF HIMSELF TO THIS WAR, OUR WAR, AND HE ISN'T EVEN ONE OF OUR OWN PEOPLE.

WOULD A MAN AS SELFISH AS ALL THAT REALLY DO SUCH A THING?



MAYBE IF HE THOUGHT THERE WAS SOMETHING IN IT FOR HIM.

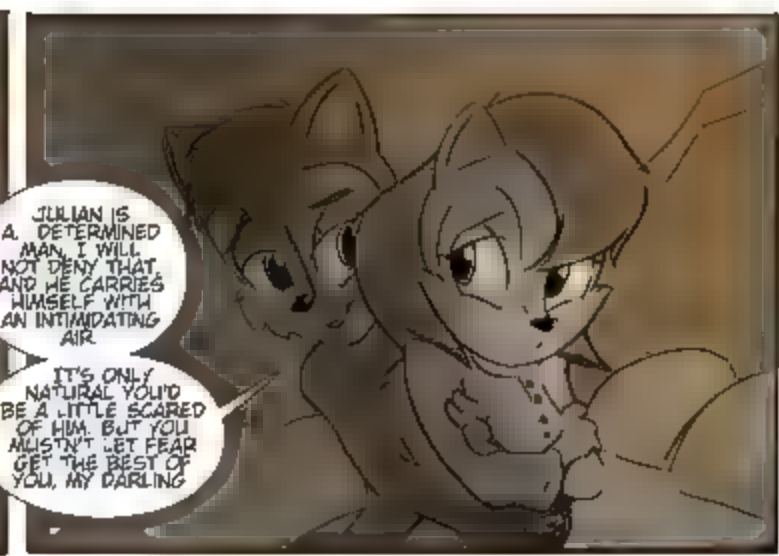


HE AND HIS NEPHEW CAME TO US, MAX.

THEY OFFERED US THEIR SERVICES. WHAT IF THE REASON WHY IS BECAUSE THEY HAD THEIR OWN PLANS IN MIND FOR OUR KINGDOM?

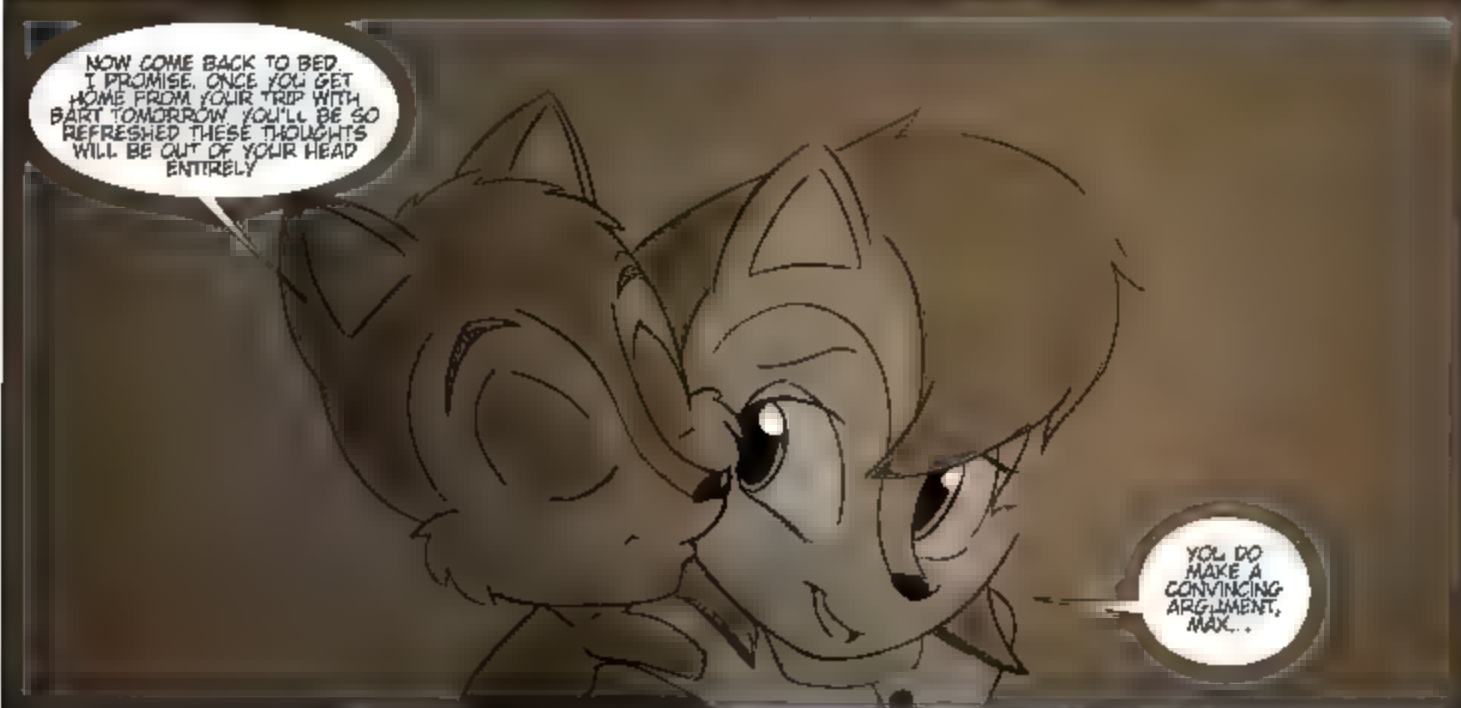
THAT WAS MONTHS AGO, DEAR.

DON'T YOU THINK, IF THEY WANTED TO DO SOMETHING, THEY WOULD HAVE BY NOW?



JULIAN IS A DETERMINED MAN. I WILL NOT DENY THAT AND HE CARRIES HIMSELF WITH AN INTIMIDATING AIR.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL YOU'D BE A LITTLE SCARED OF HIM, BUT YOU MUSTN'T LET FEAR GET THE BEST OF YOU, MY DARLING.



NOW COME BACK TO BED. I PROMISE, ONCE YOU GET HOME FROM YOUR TRIP WITH BART TOMORROW YOU'LL BE SO REFRESHED THESE THOUGHTS WILL BE OUT OF YOUR HEAD ENTIRELY.

YOU DO MAKE A CONVINCING ARGUMENT, MAX.

SO BART AND I SET OUT FOR DROOD HENGE, AS SCHEDULED. IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A ROUTINE EXPEDITION, SMALL AND LOW-KEY. BUT THAT WOULD BE THE DAY THAT CHANGED MY LIFE FOREVER.

WHOOOSH

STILL WORKING ON THAT DEVICE OF YOURS, I SEE.

THE ACTUAL COMPUTER IS ALMOST FINISHED NOW. AFTER THAT, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF PROGRAMMING THE INTERFACE.

NORMALLY, YOU JUST ENJOY THE TRIP. IS SOMETHING TROUBLING YOU, NICOLE?

JUST FEELING ANXIOUS, I SUPPOSE.

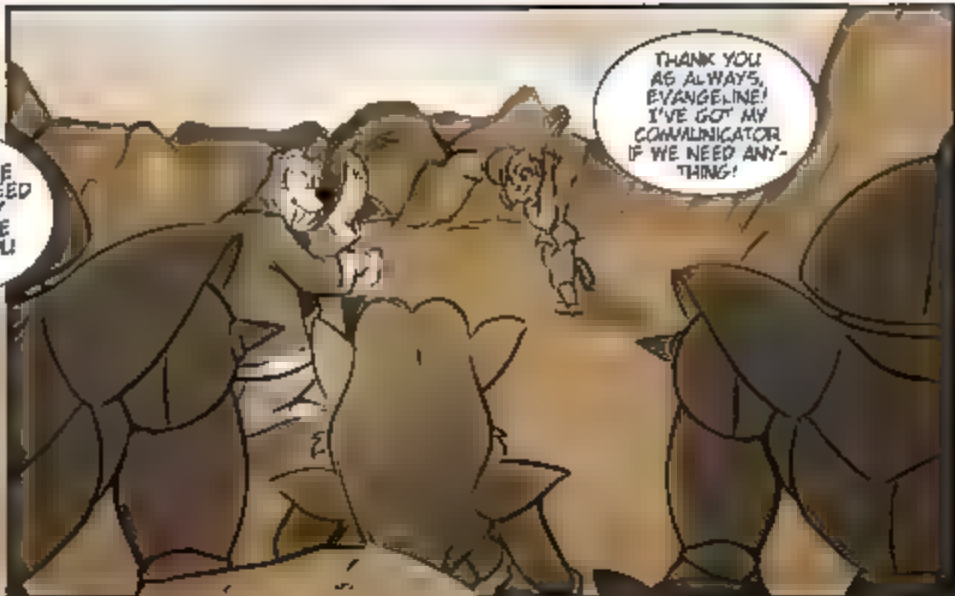
WHOOOOOSH

I WILL KEEP AN EYE ON THINGS FROM THE OUTSIDE AND KEEP THE HOVERCRAFT READY, JUST IN CASE



SIGNAL ME THE MOMENT YOU NEED ANYTHING, MY QUEEN. BONNE CHANCE TO YOU BOTH!

THANK YOU AS ALWAYS, EVANGELINE! I'VE GOT MY COMVALNIGATOR IF WE NEED ANYTHING!



WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE IT WAS YOU SAW, NICOLE?



I DON'T KNOW, HONESTLY I DON'T SEE ANY SIGN OF IT NOW THAT WE'RE ON THE GROUND.

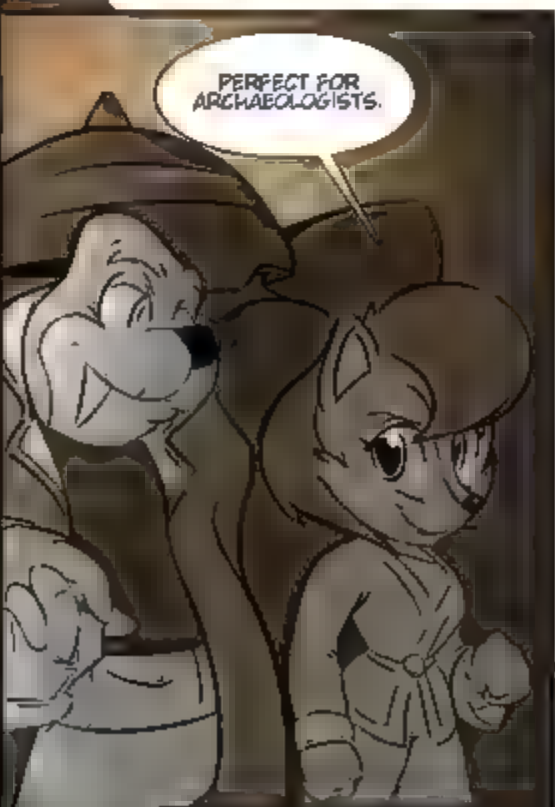
BUT SINCE WE'RE HERE ..



LOOKS DEEP, DARK, AND DANGEROUS TOO.



PERFECT FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS.





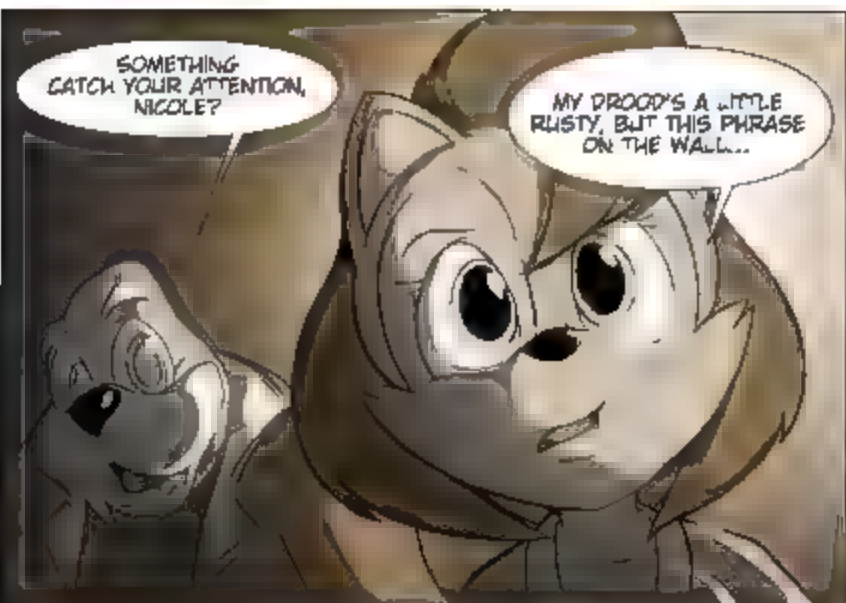
FASCINATING. IT WOULD SEEM THE DROODS WERE CRAFTIER THAN WE GAVE THEM CREDIT FOR, HIDING A TEMPLE WITHIN THIS OLD ROCK.

BUT WHY HIDE IT? THE DROOD SITES WE'VE STUDIED BEFORE WERE RIGHT IN THE OPEN.

THIS, THOUGH... THEY WENT TO A LOT OF TROUBLE TO CONCEAL IT



HMM

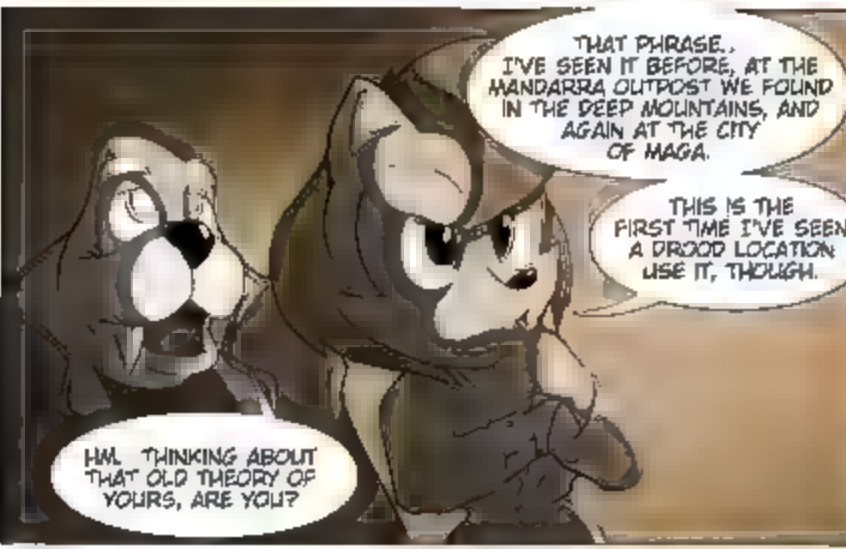


SOMETHING CATCH YOUR ATTENTION, NICOLE?

MY DROOD'S A LITTLE RUSTY, BUT THIS PHRASE ON THE WALL...



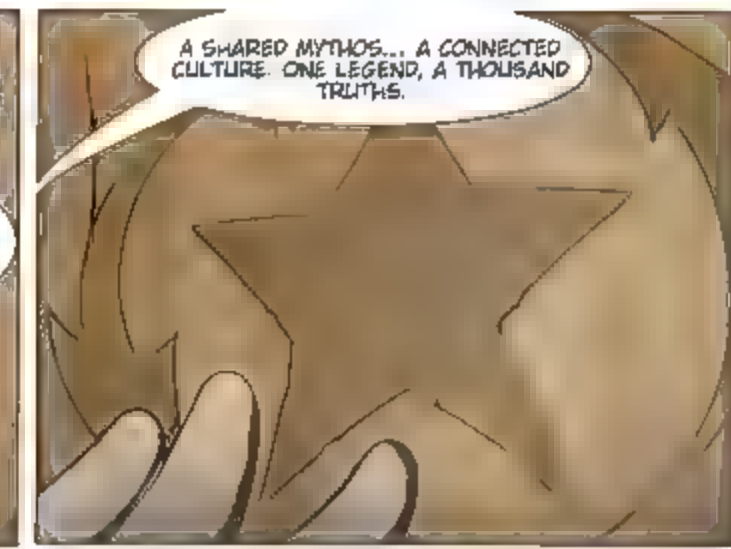
I THINK IT TRANSLATES TO "BY STAR'S GUIDANCE, BY SUN'S PROTECTION."



THAT PHRASE, I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE, AT THE MANDARRA OUTPOST WE FOUND IN THE DEEP MOUNTAINS, AND AGAIN AT THE CITY OF MAGA.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN A DROOD LOCATION USE IT, THOUGH.

HMM. THINKING ABOUT THAT OLD THEORY OF YOURS, ARE YOU?



A SHARED MYTHOS... A CONNECTED CULTURE. ONE LEGEND, A THOUSAND TRUTHS.



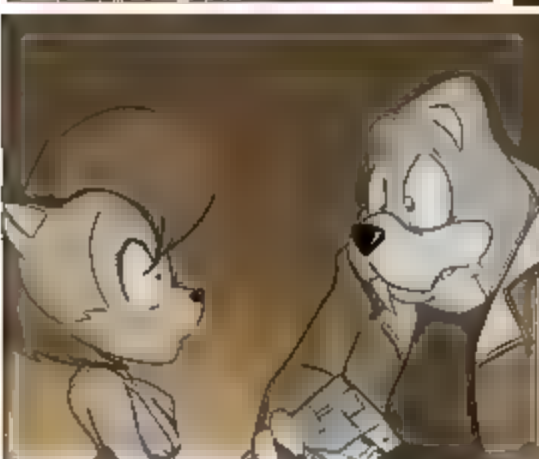
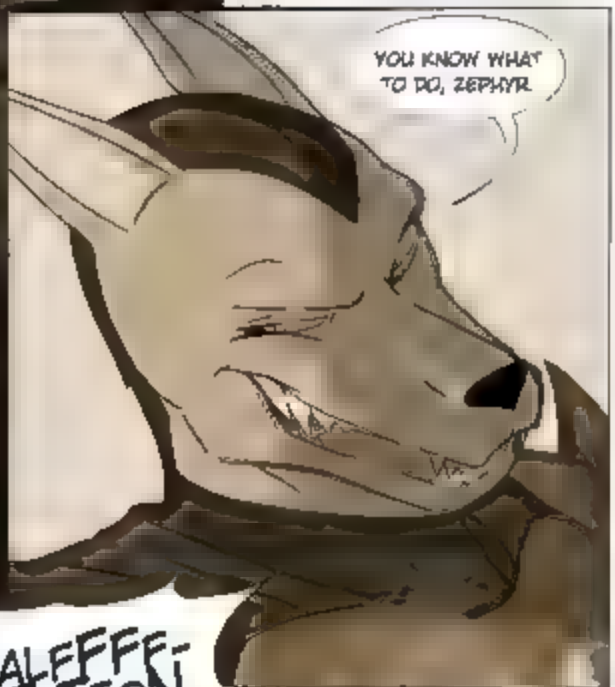
THAT CAME FROM BELOW US...!

SOMEONE ELSE IS INSIDE? WHO? HOW?



WHOEVER THEY ARE, THEY SOUND LIKE THEY'RE IN TROUBLE WE'VE GOT TO...!







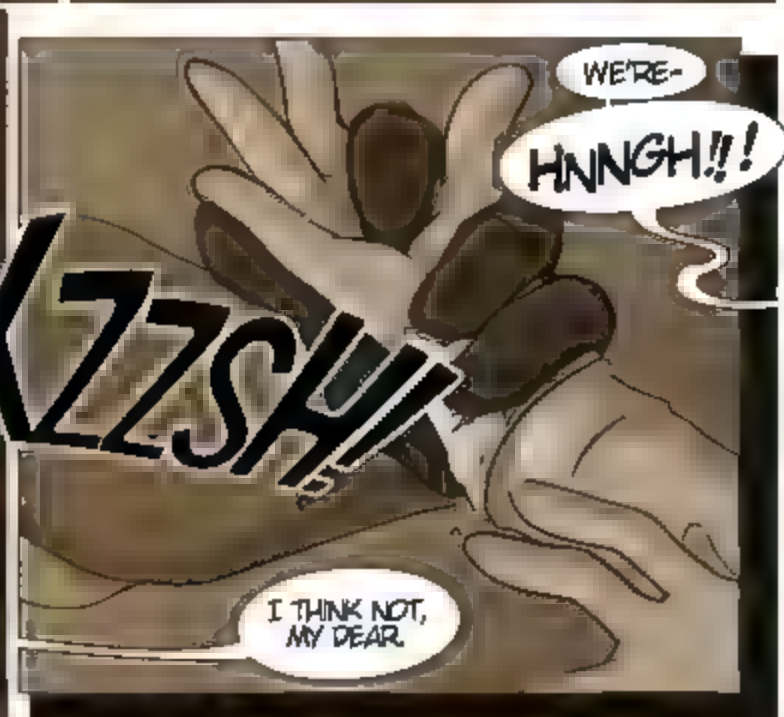
RUN!



EVANGELINE!



EVANGELINE,
EVANGELINE! WE
NEED HELP!



WE'RE-

HNNGH!!!

KZZSH!

I THINK NOT,
MY DEAR.



GIVE ME ONE GOOD REASON
WHY I SHOULDN'T SKIN YOUR
INTERLOPING HIDES RIGHT
NOW.

CLANK

CLANK



... BECAUSE...



BECAUSE
WE BOTH WANT
THE SAME THING.



OH?



I HEARD WHAT YOU SAID BEFORE YOU NEED THAT BOOK

NICOLE !

MY FRIEND AND I WE RE ARCHAEOLOGISTS, WE KNOW A LOT ABOUT ANCIENT CULTURES AND HOW THEY WORKED

WE WANT THE BOOK TOO, AND I THINK I MAY KNOW HOW TO GET IT



JUST KILL THEM AND BE DONE WITH IT KALE! WE DON'T NEED THEM!



I GIVE THE ORDERS AROUND HERE, ZEPHYR! AND SHE'S RIGHT ABOUT ONE THING.



WE NEED THAT BOOK!

SO LET'S HOPE YOU WERE BEING HONEST ABOUT THE REST OF WHAT YOU SAID

BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO GET THAT BOOK FOR US, AND IF YOU'RE LYING... WELL...



AND JUST TO PROVIDE SOME EXTRA INCENTIVE

HEH YOU'LL WIND UP IN WORSE SHAPE THAN ME!

HEE HEE HEE

FAIL, OR TRY TO PULL ANYTHING FUNNY, AND YOU LOSE YOUR FRIEND GOT IT?

I'D RECOMMEND AGAINST IT

DO I AT LEAST GET TO STAND UP?

NOW GET TO WORK!

THE TRUTH WAS, I DIDN'T KNOW ANY MORE ABOUT THAT BOOK OR HOW TO GET IT THAN THE WAR CLAWS.

I WAS JUST DESPERATELY STALLING FOR TIME.

I HAD NO IDEA WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT.

By STAR'S GUIDANCE, BY SUN'S PROTECTION.

WOULD I DIE?
WOULD BART? WOULD I BE
BURNED LIKE THAT WAR CLAW
HYENA?

WOULD I SUCCEED?

By STAR'S GUIDANCE, BY SUN'S PROTECTION.

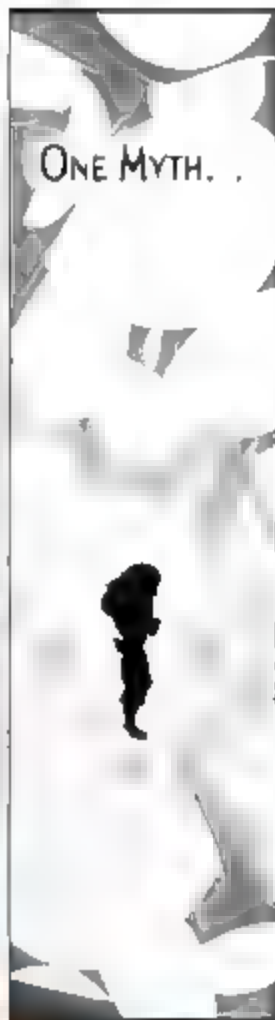
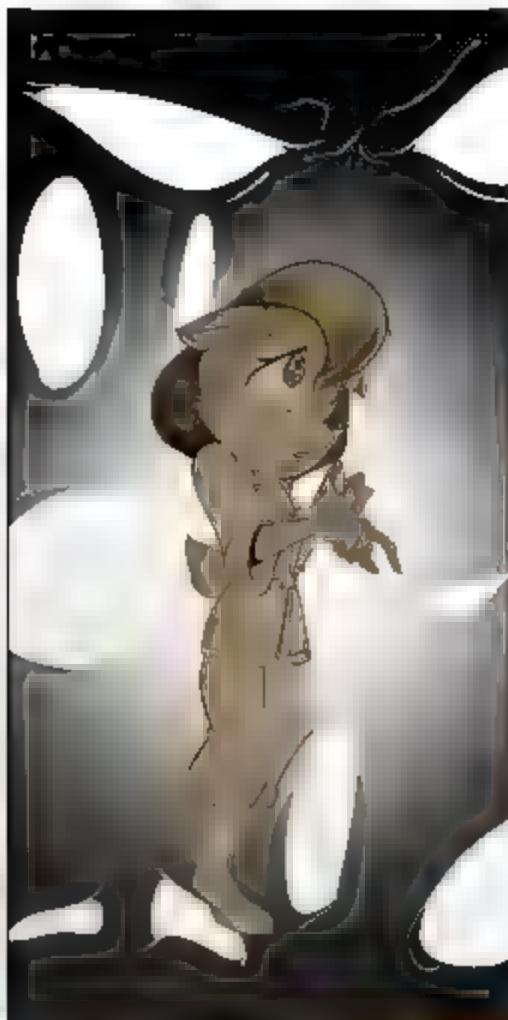
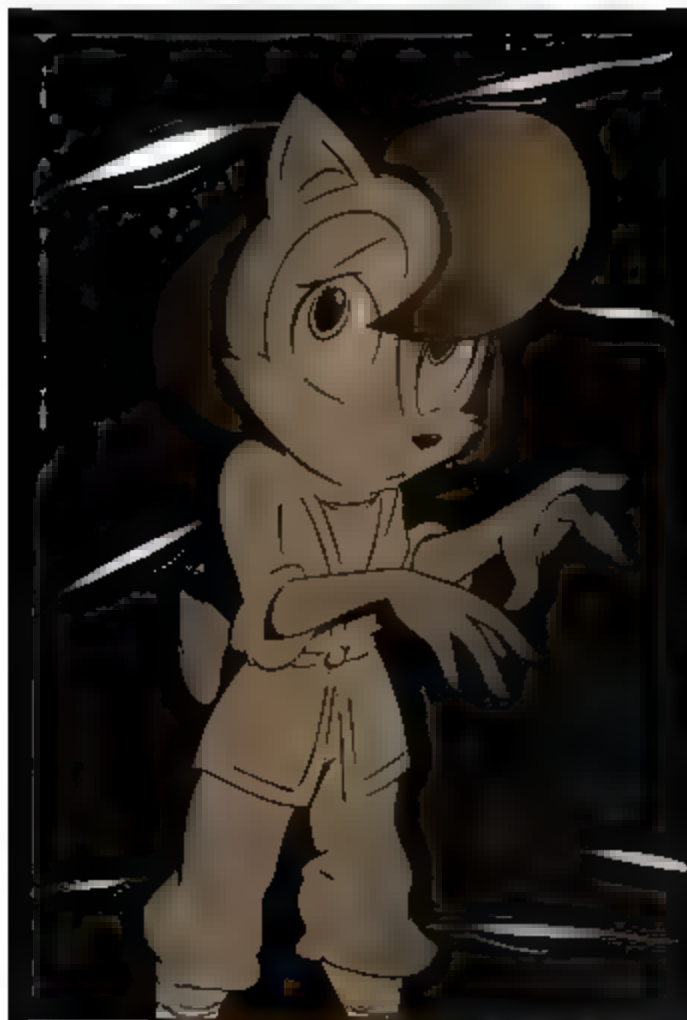
... DID I WANT TO?

THE ONLY THING I COULD THINK OF TO KEEP MY HANDS STEADY WERE THE WORDS I HAD READ BEFORE ON THE WALL...

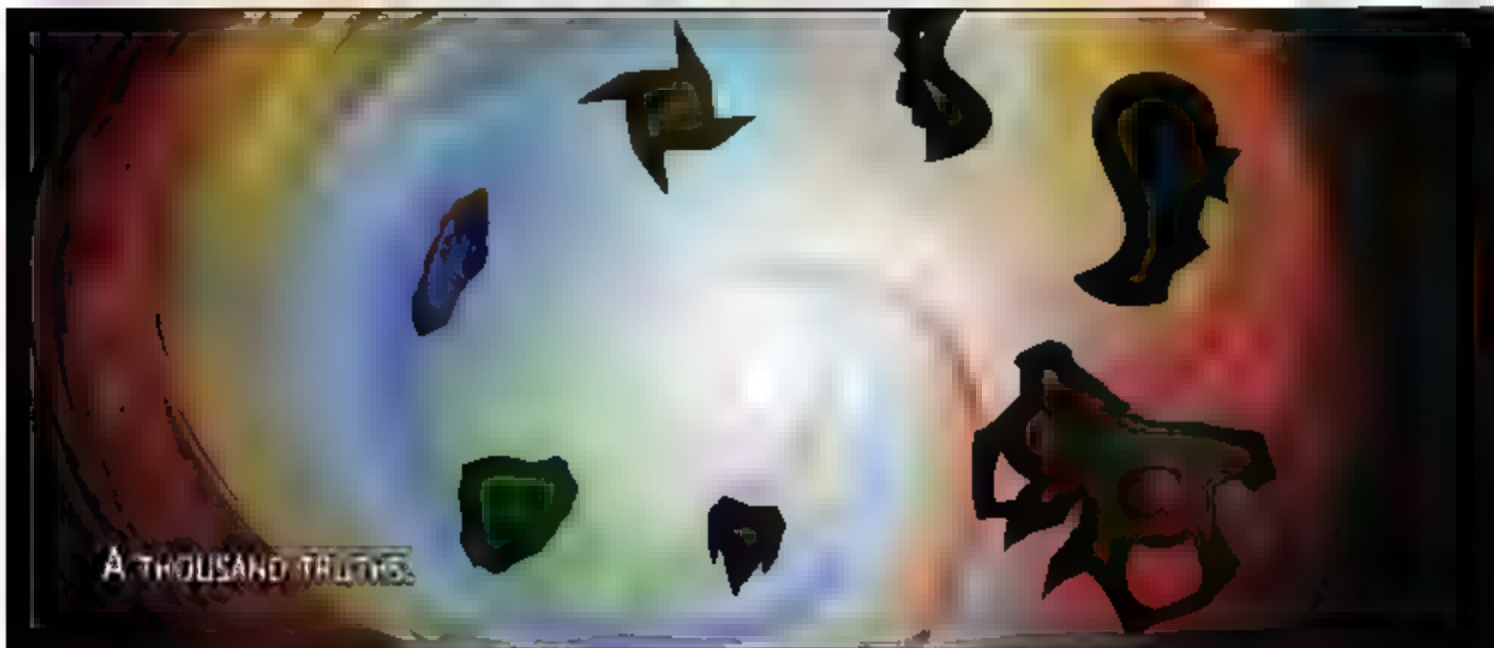
By STAR'S GUIDANCE, BY SUN'S PROTECTION.

AND THAT IS WHEN IT HAPPENED.

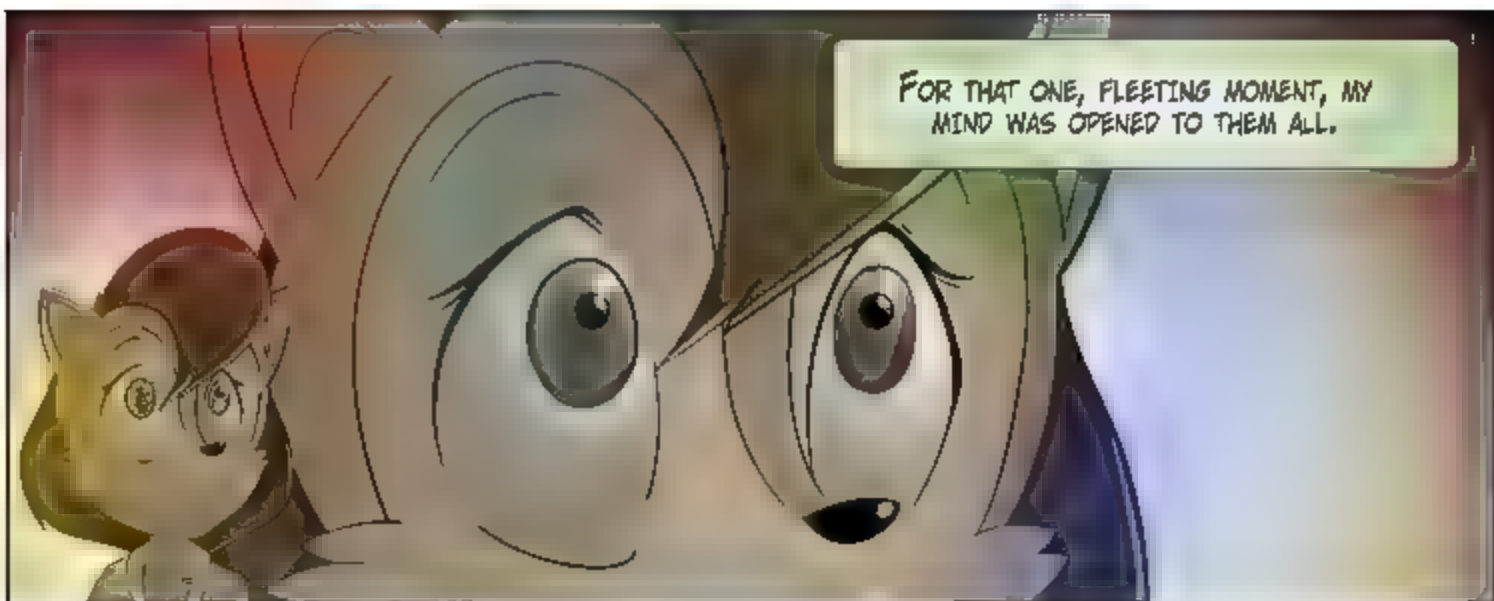




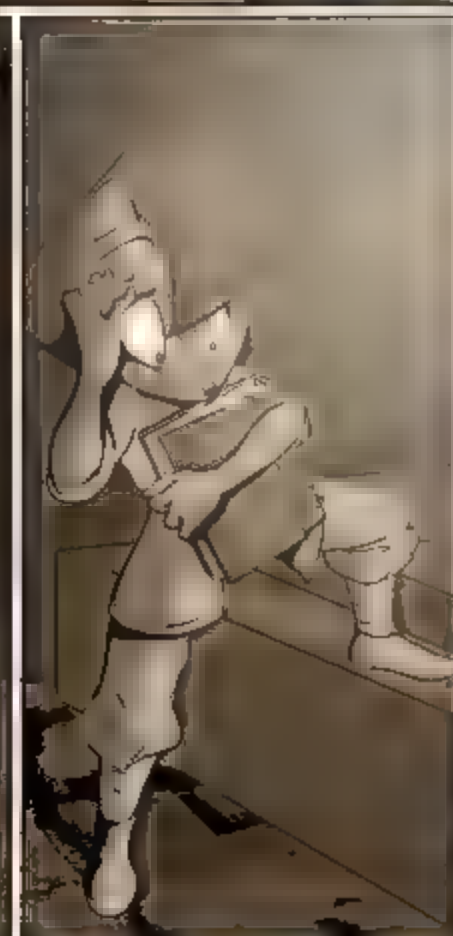
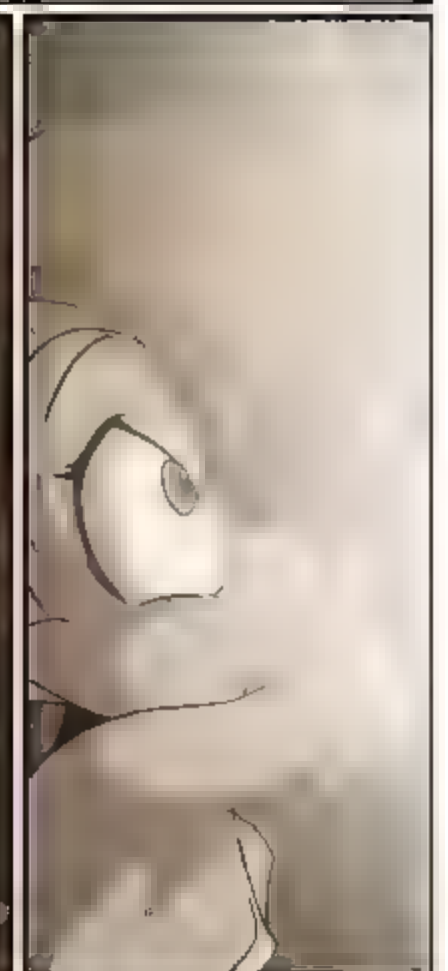
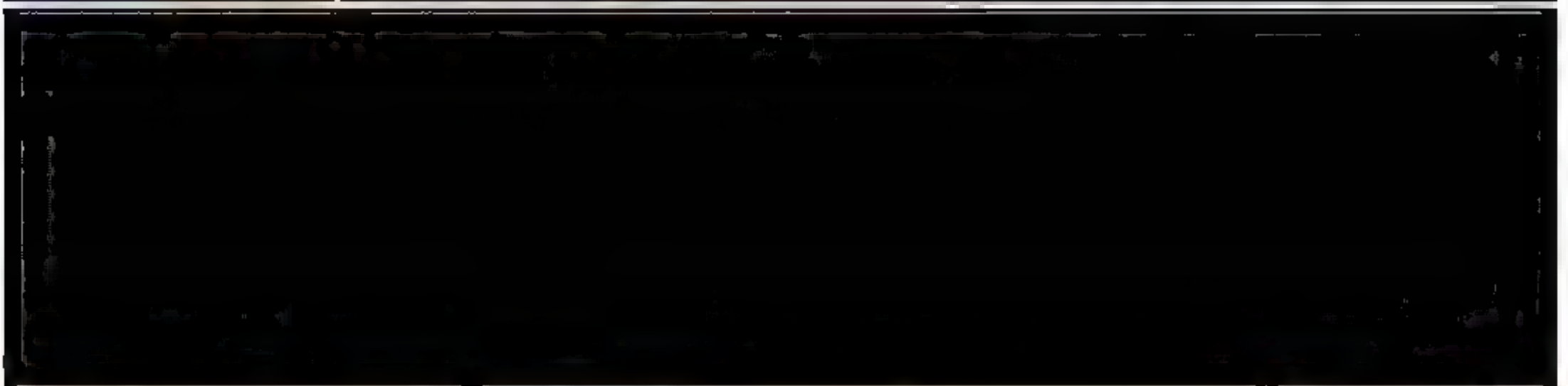
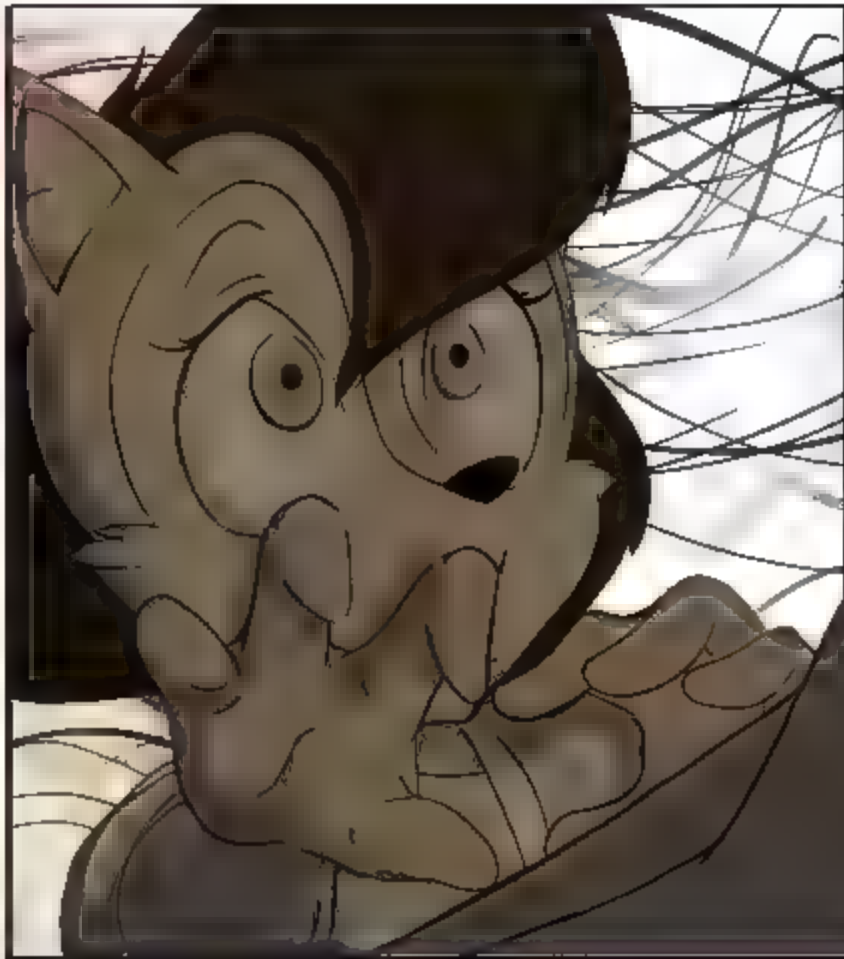
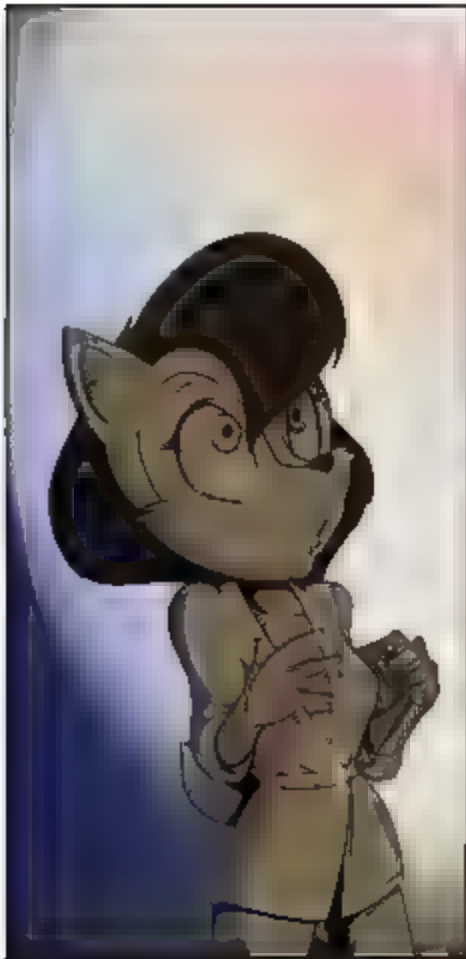
ONE MYTH. .

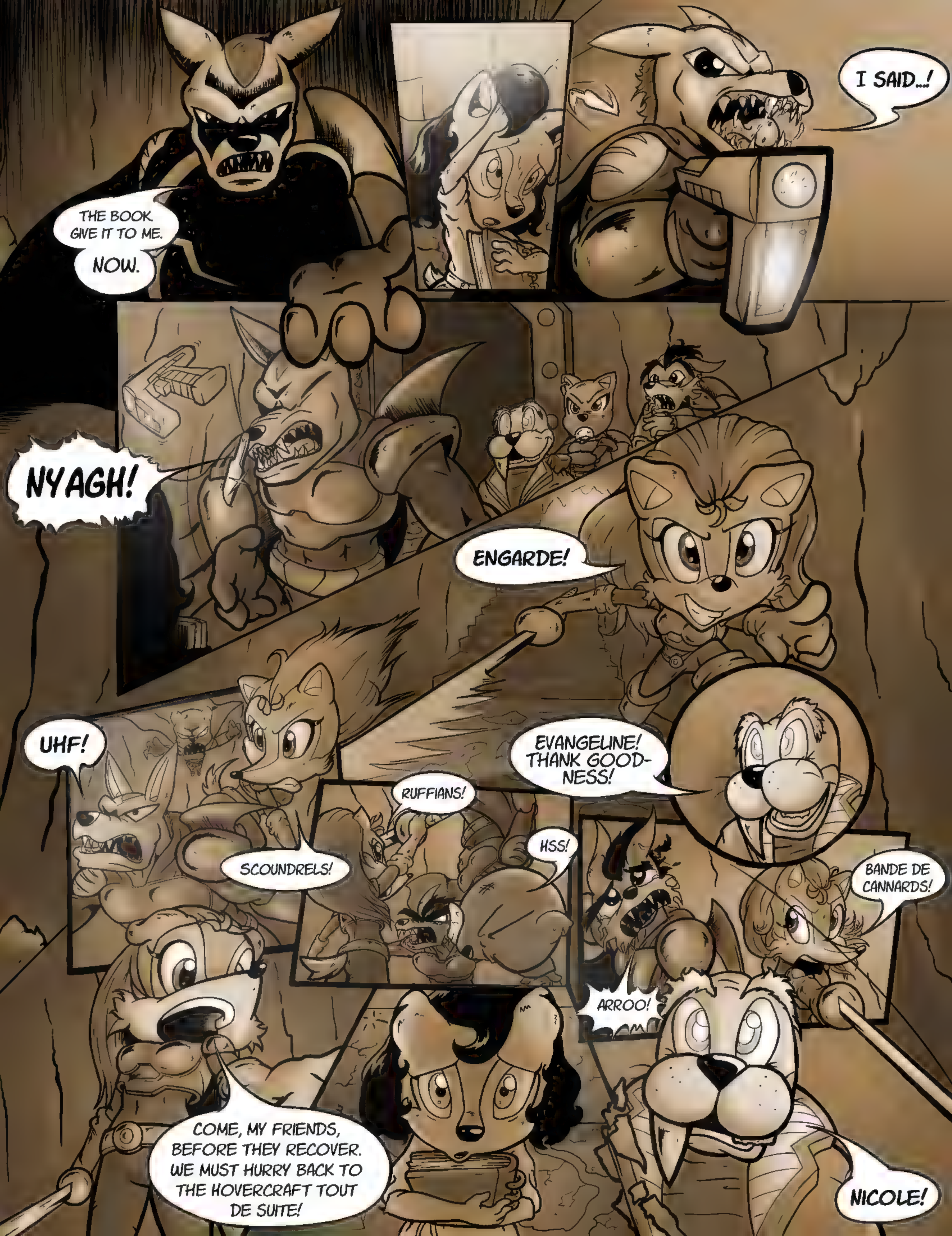


A THOUSAND TRUTHS.



FOR THAT ONE, FLEETING MOMENT, MY
MIND WAS OPENED TO THEM ALL.





R-RIGHT!

GRRRR...

AFTER THEM! WE
NEED THAT BOOK!

BRZZT!

OH DEAR,
OH DEAR!

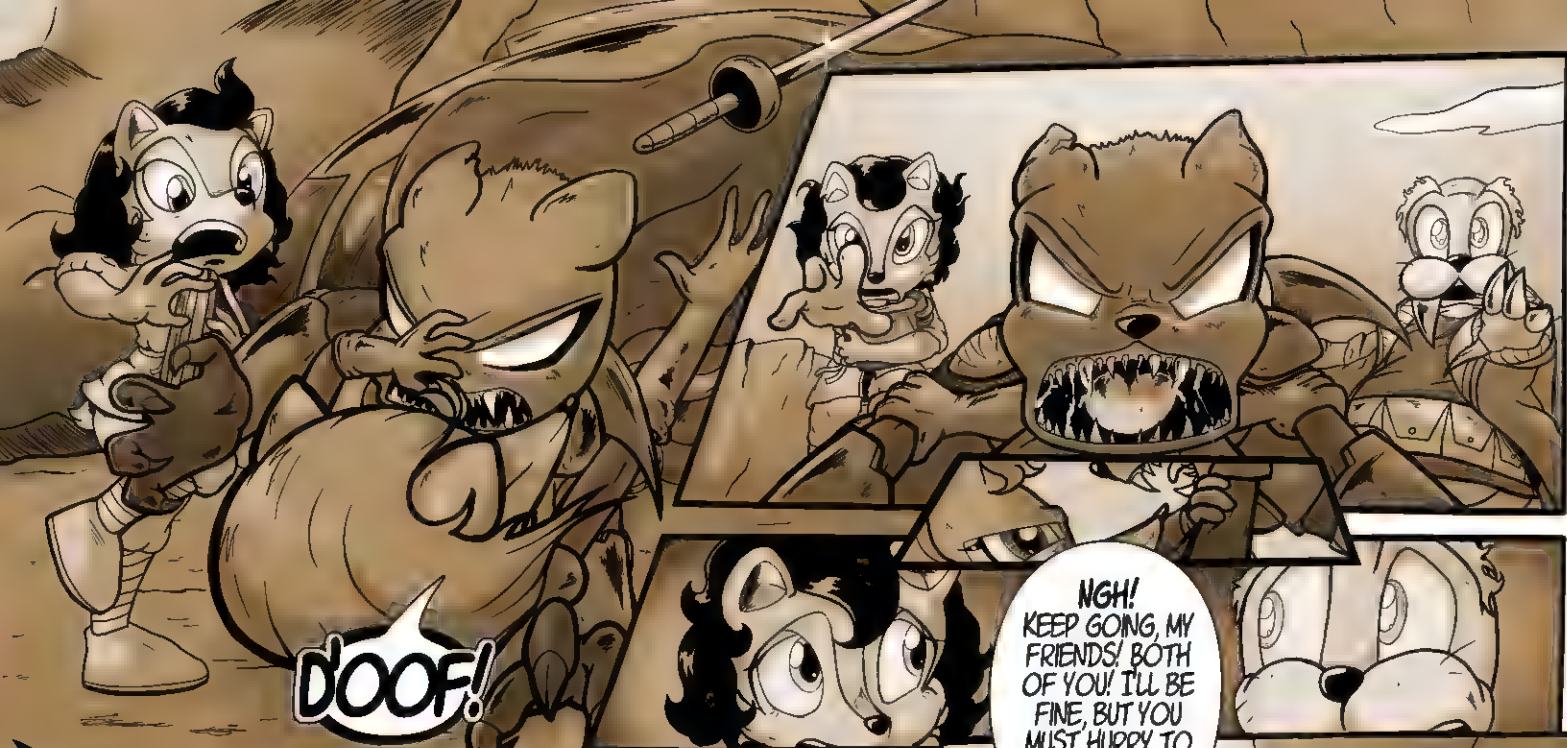
EN AVANT! WE
ARE ALMOST
THERE!

BRZZT!

ZEPHYR!
CUT THEM
OFF!

ROGER.

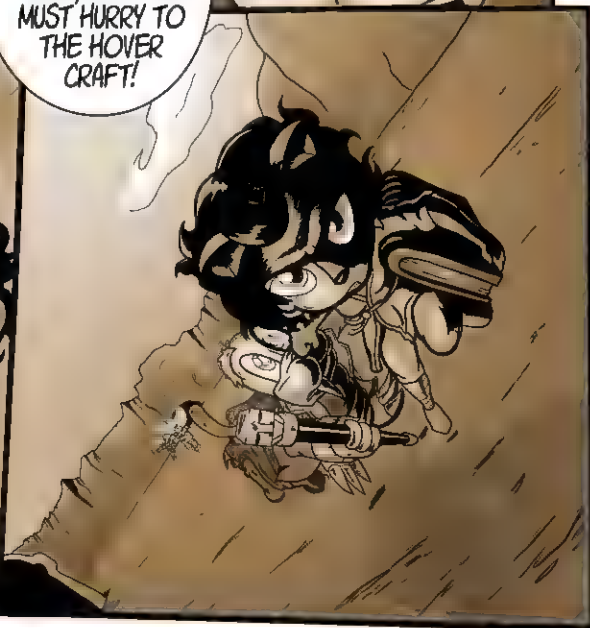
HSS!



D'OOOF!

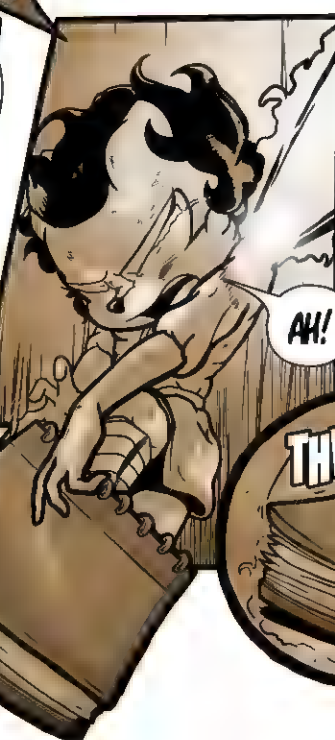
NGH!
KEEP GOING, MY
FRIENDS! BOTH
OF YOU! I'LL BE
FINE, BUT YOU
MUST HURRY TO
THE HOVER
CRAFT!

GO!



I WILL
HAVE
THAT
BOOK!

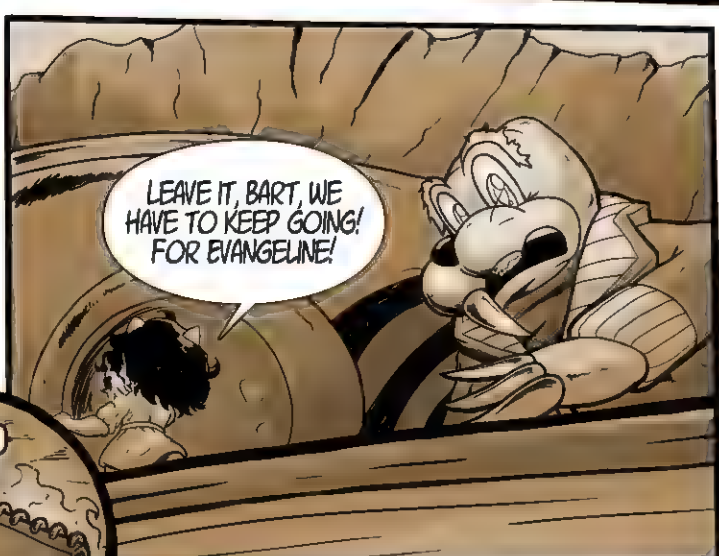
BRZZT!



AH!



THWAP



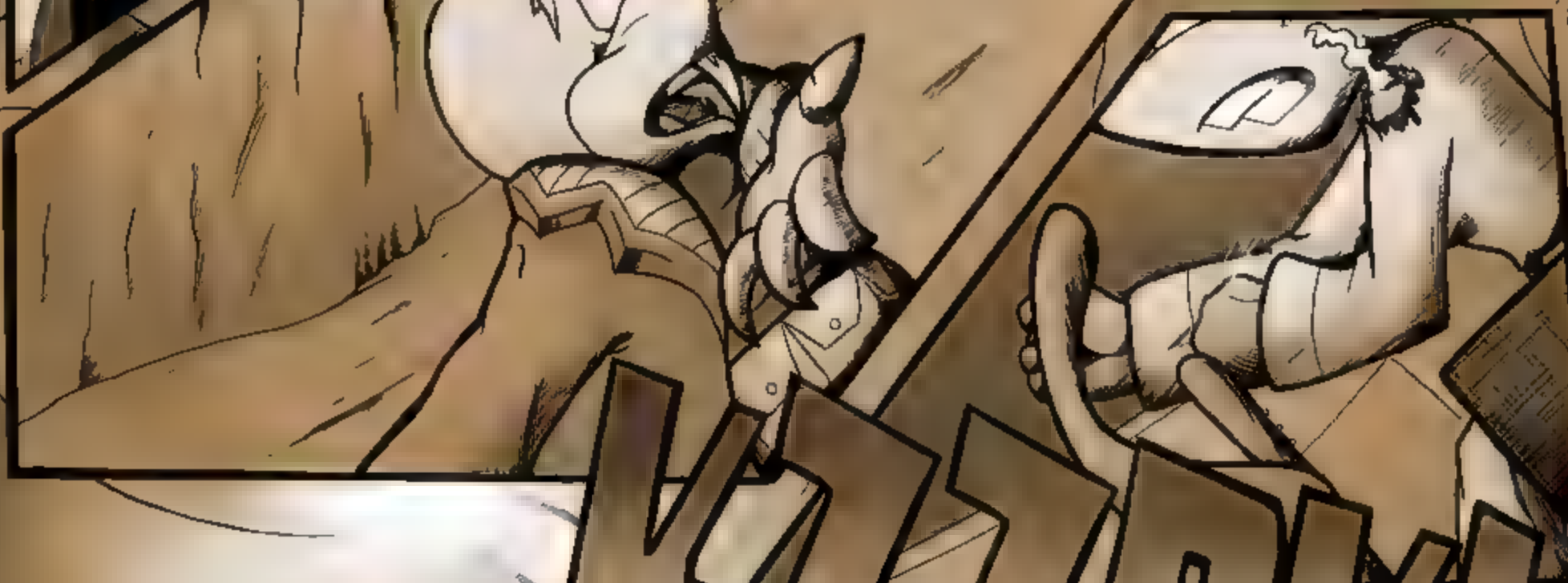
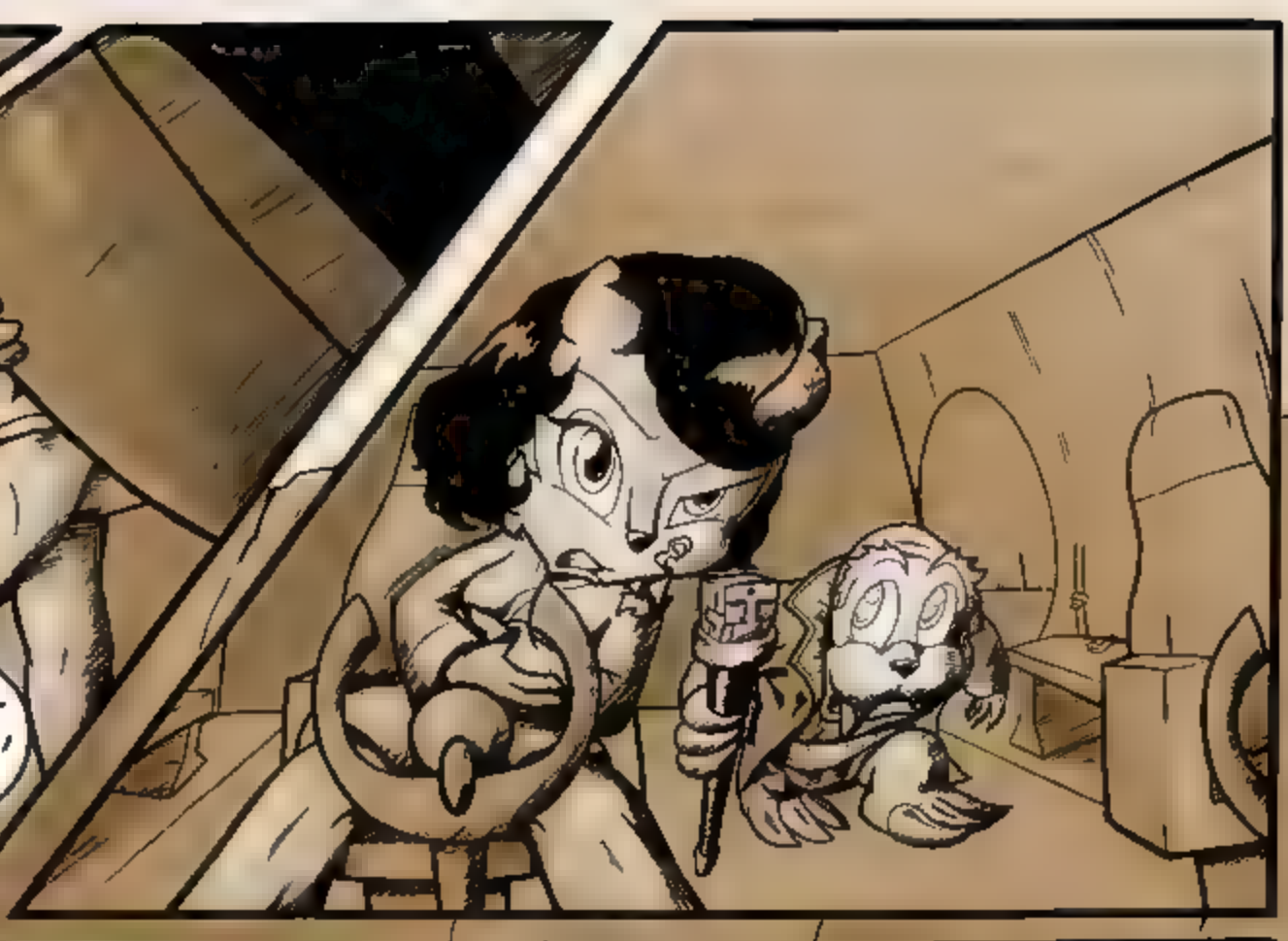
LEAVE IT, BART, WE
HAVE TO KEEP GOING!
FOR EVANGELINE!



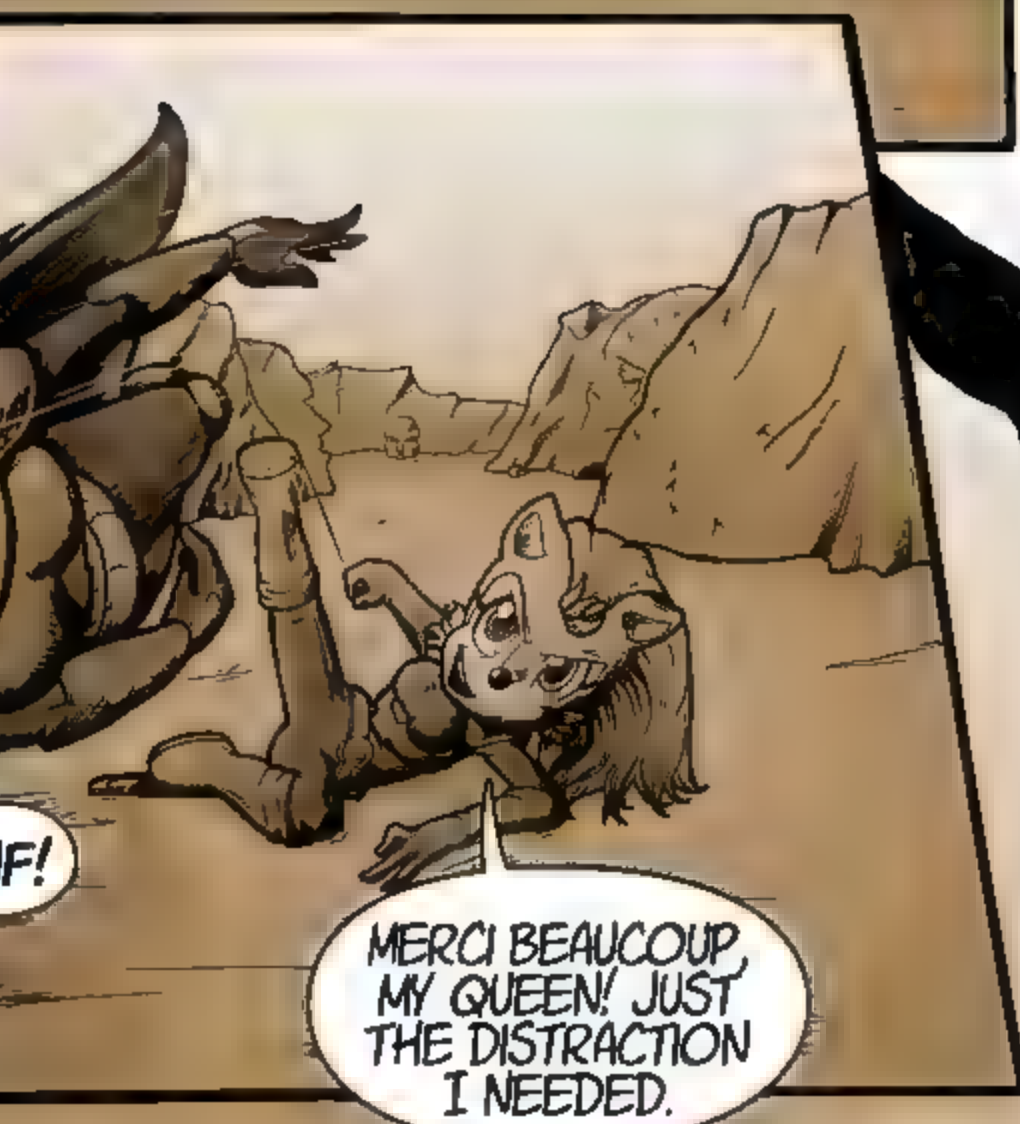
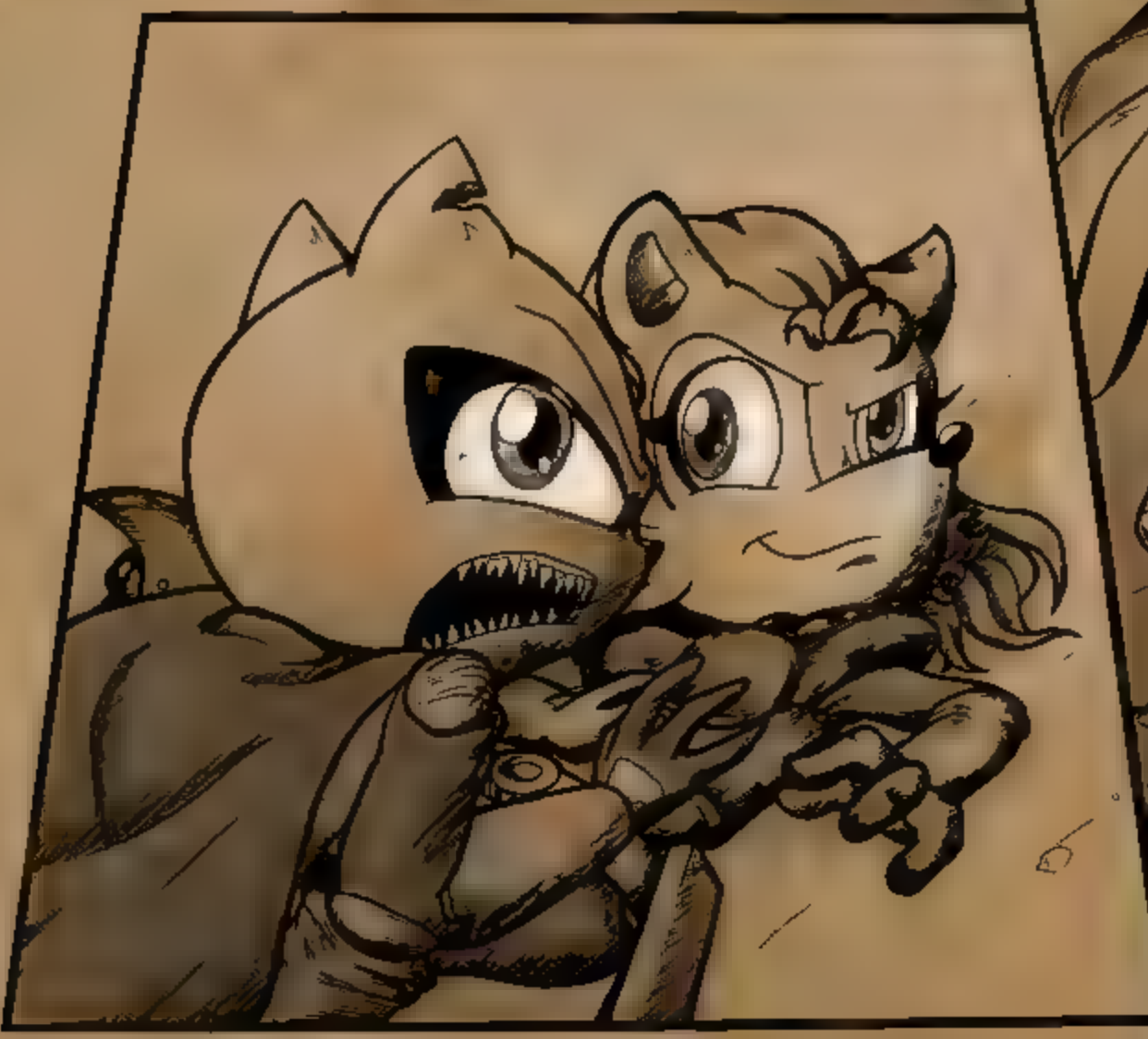
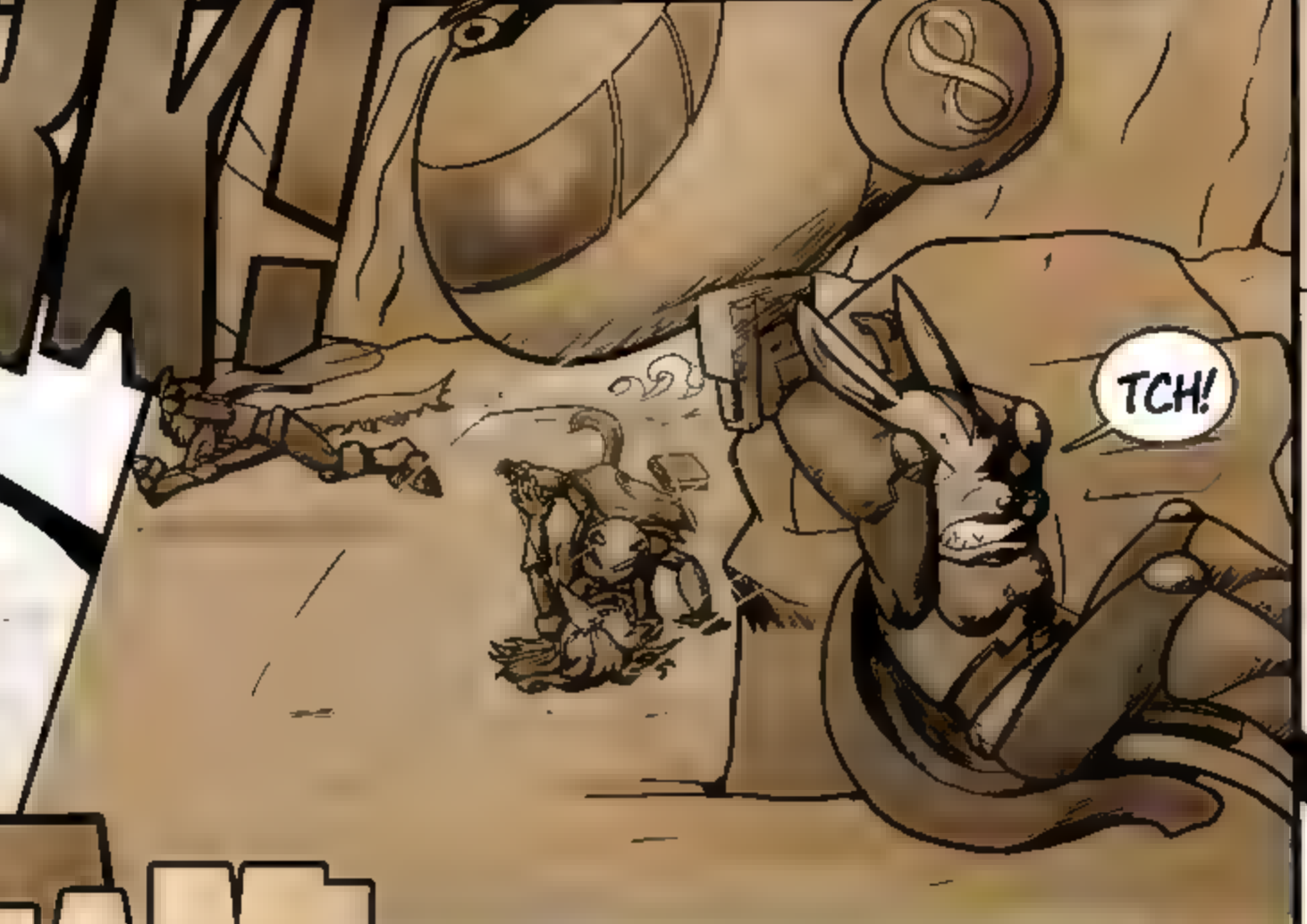
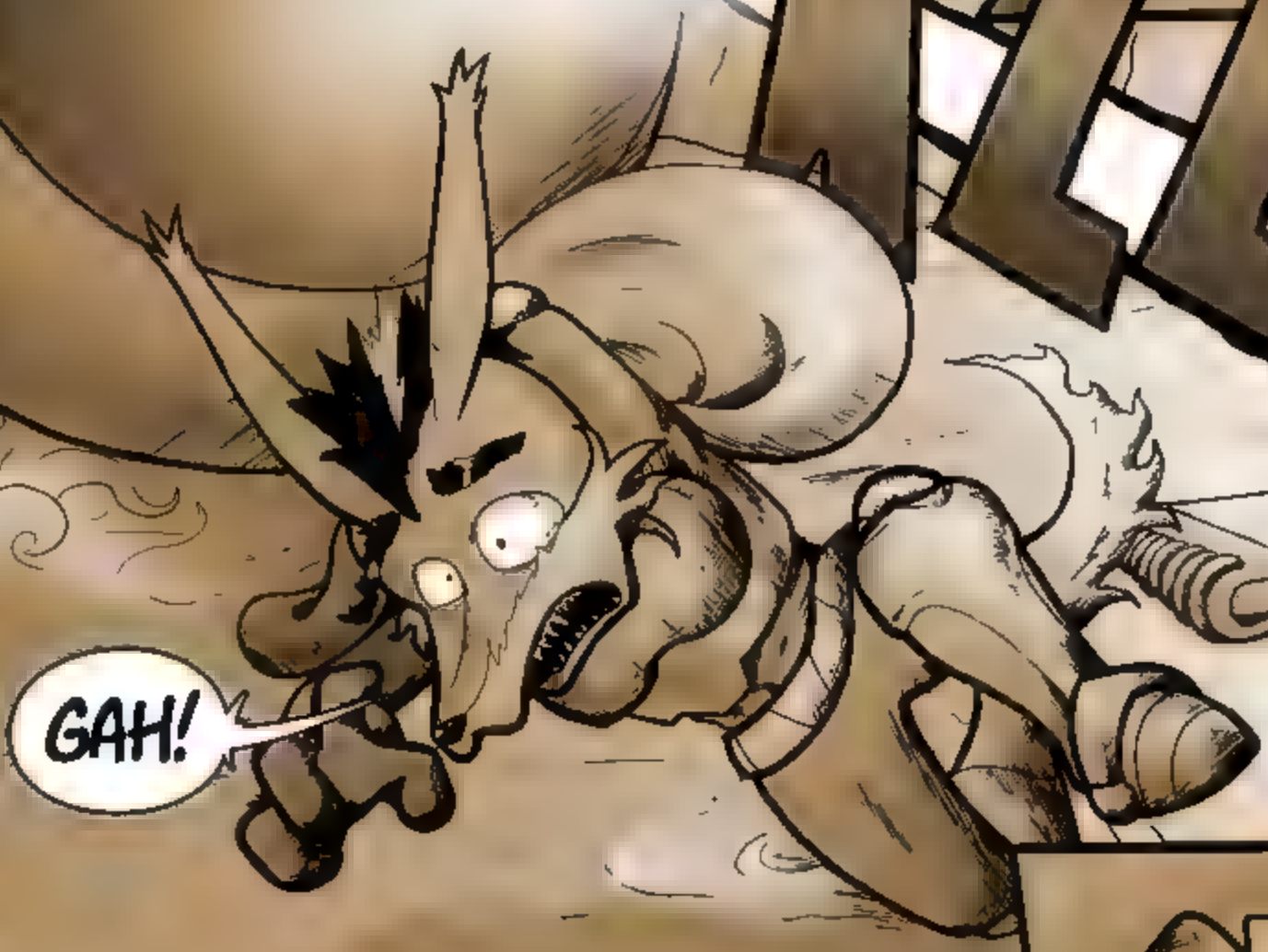
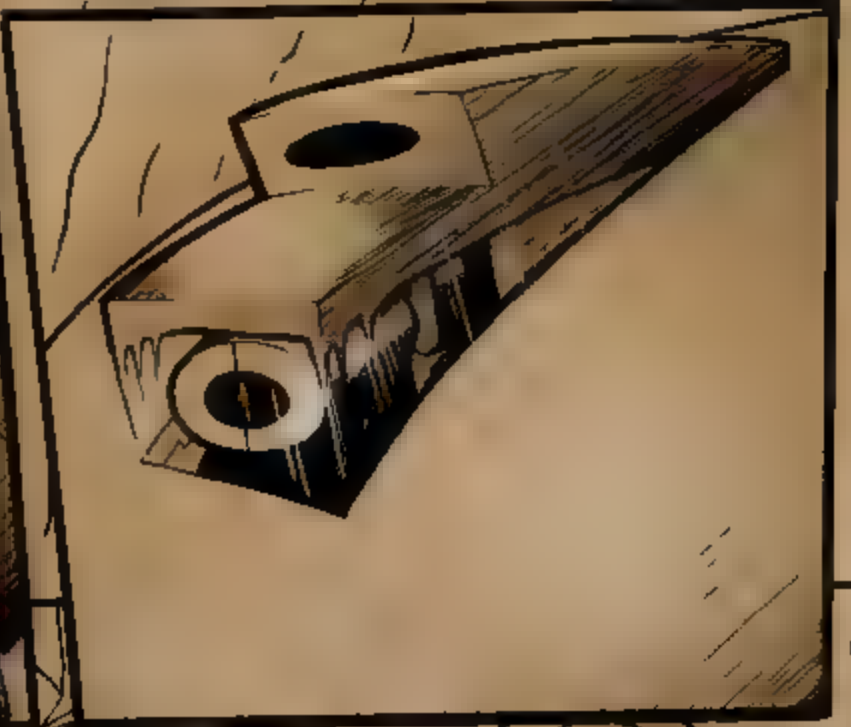
R-RIGHT!

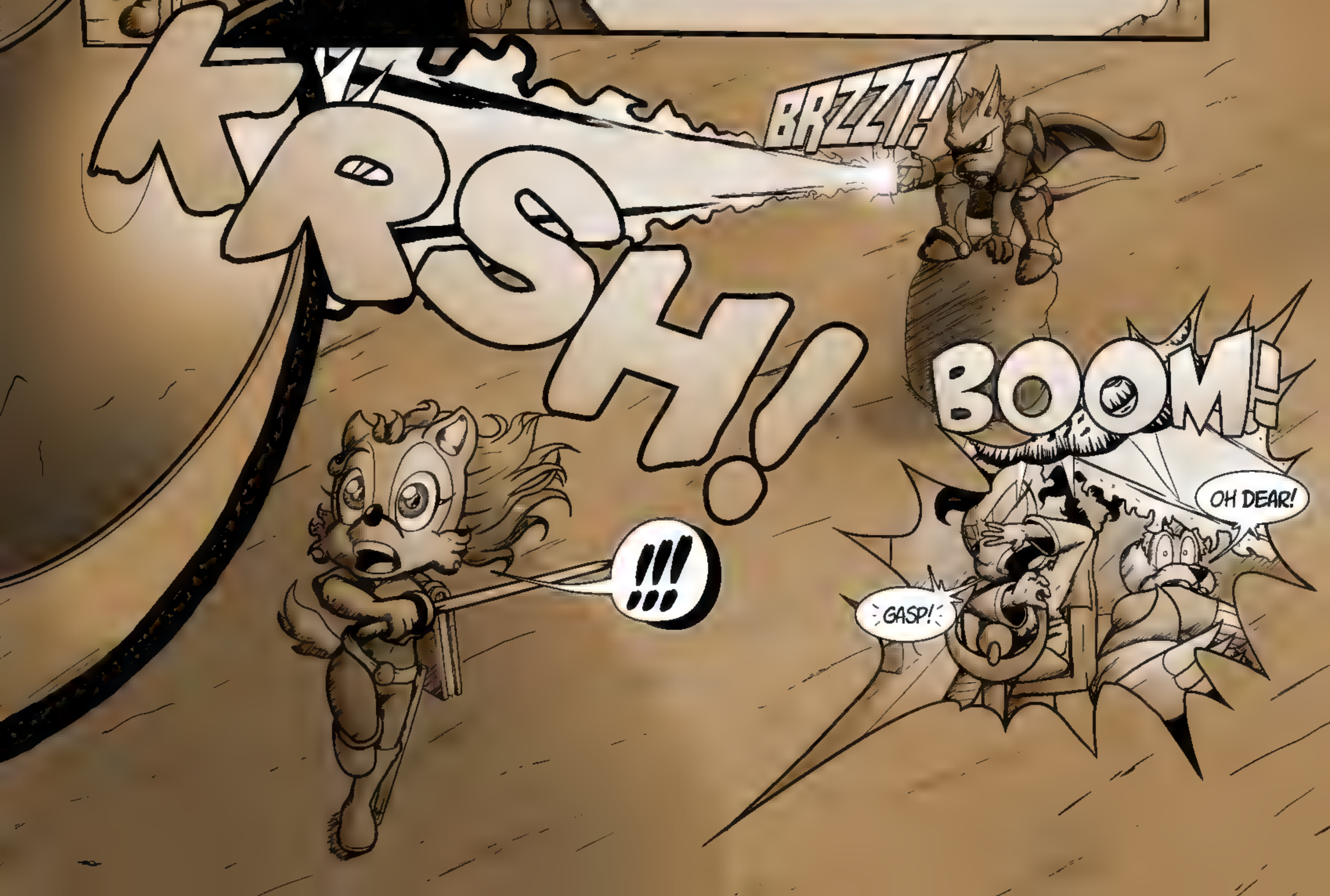
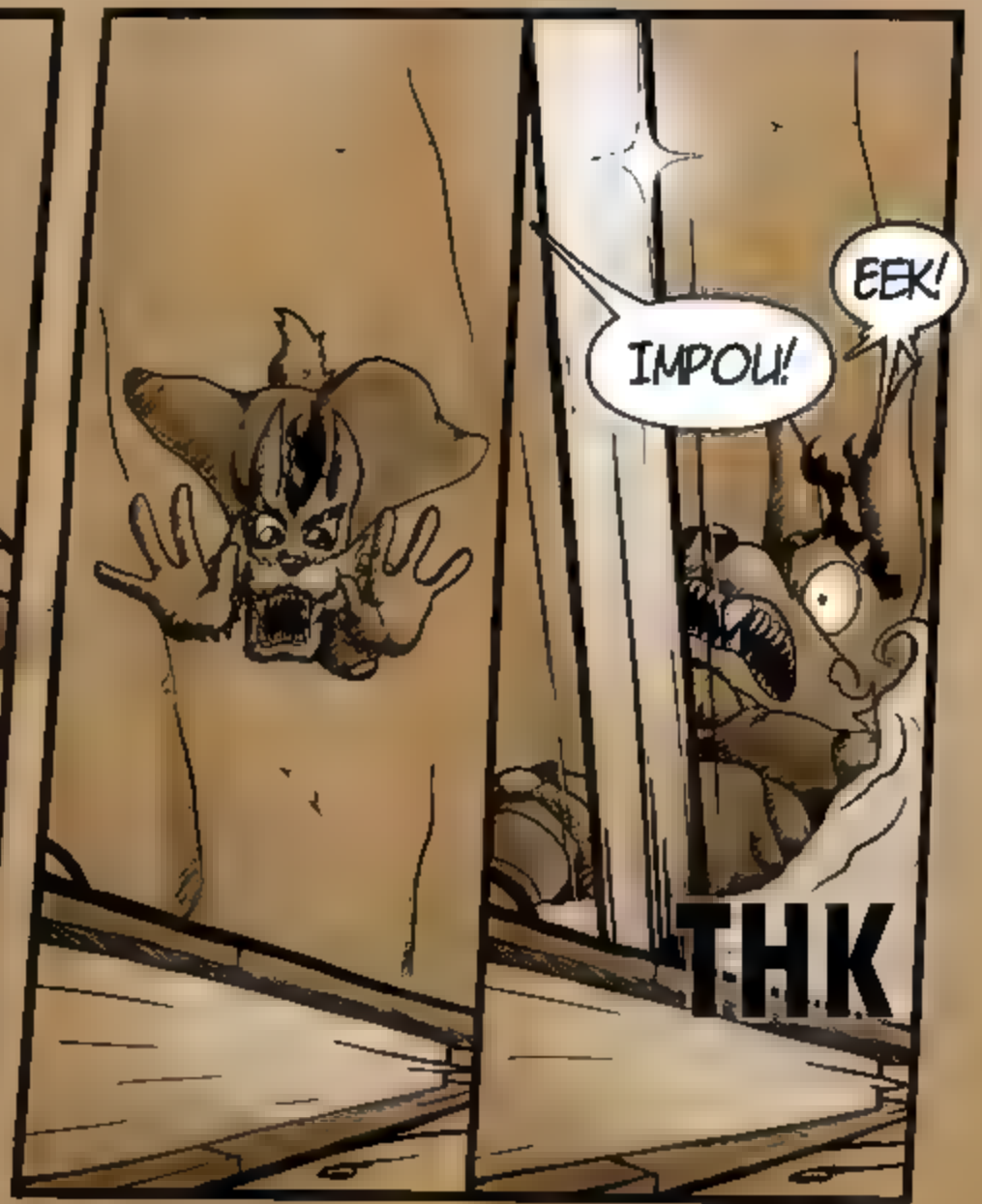
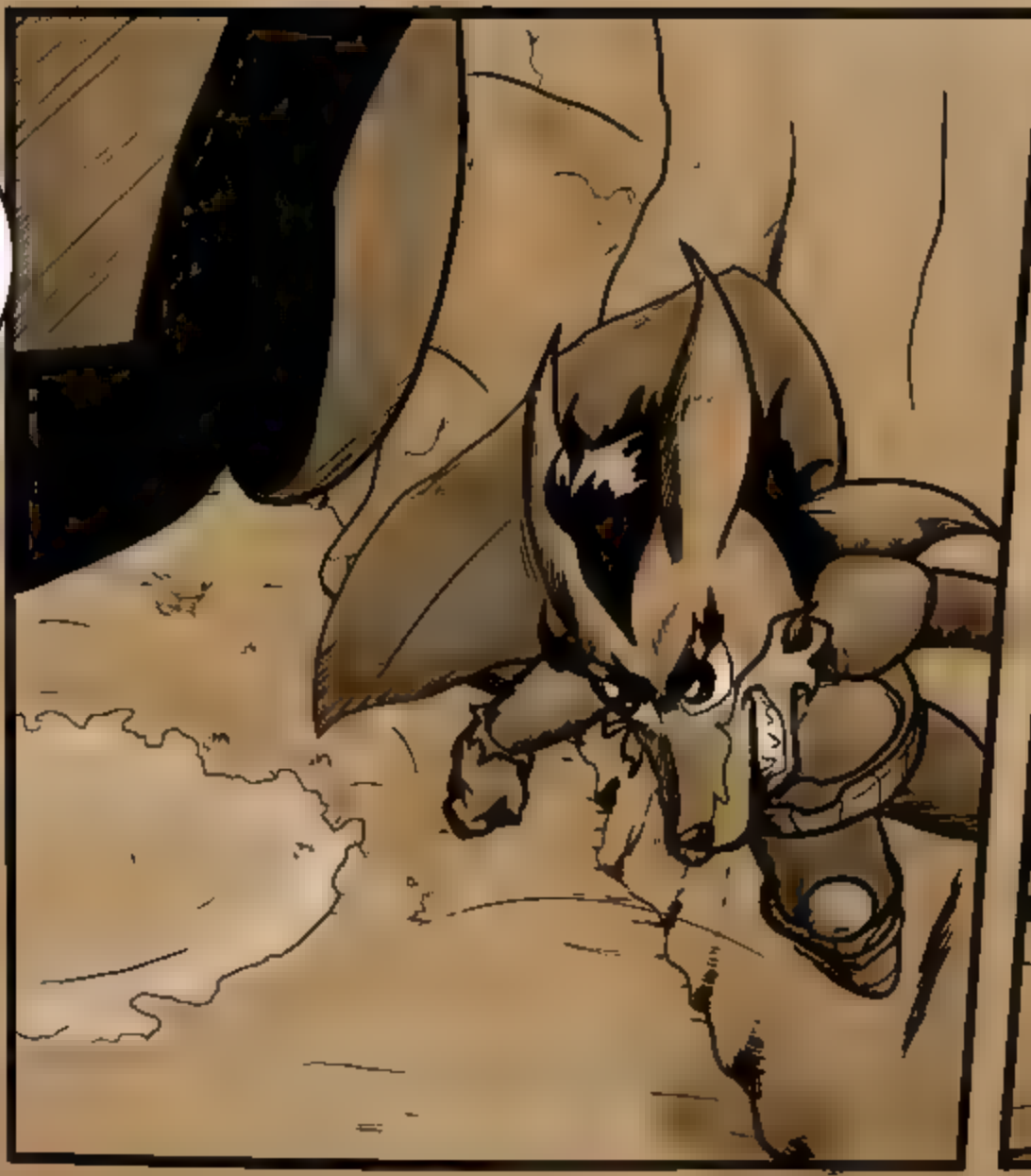
WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE EVANGELINE BEHIND!

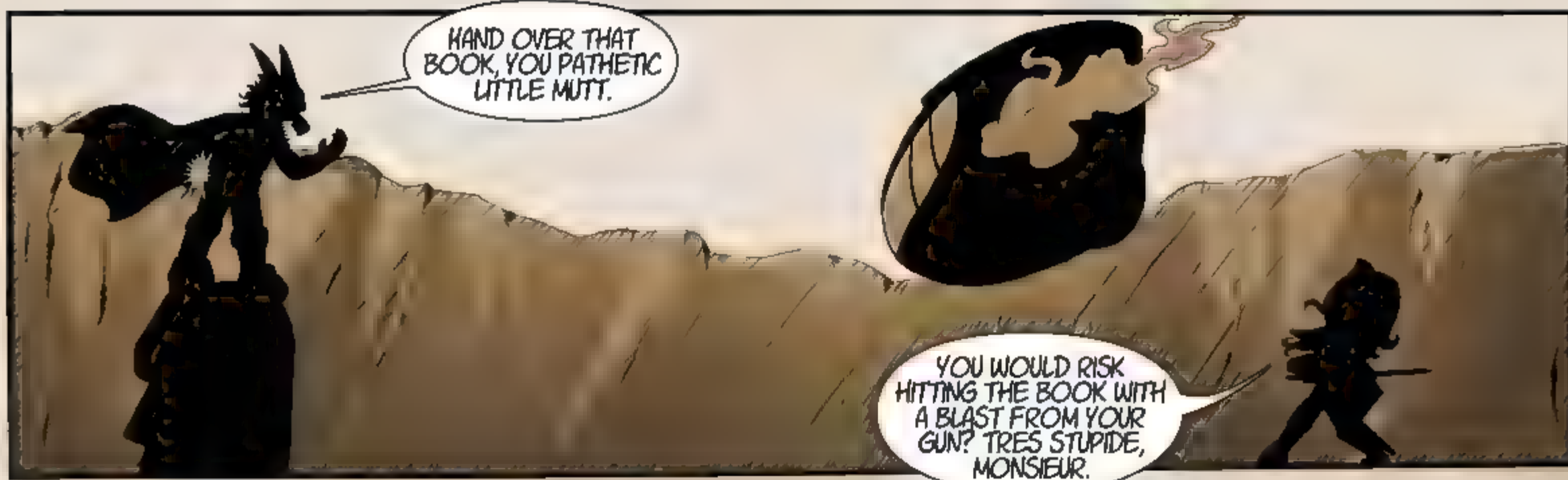
WE WON'T, BART.



KLEARRK!







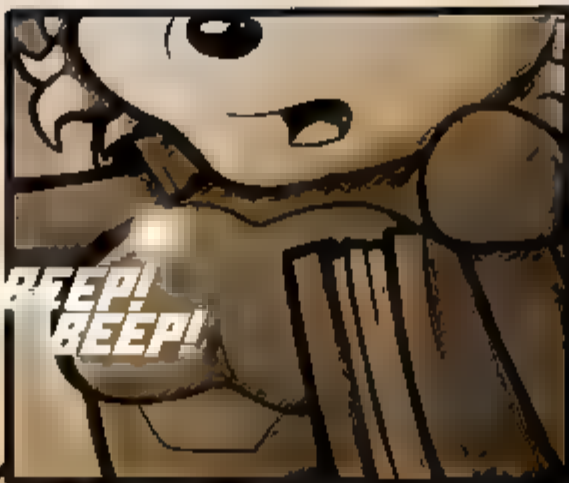
HAND OVER THAT BOOK, YOU PATHETIC LITTLE MUTT.

YOU WOULD RISK HITTING THE BOOK WITH A BLAST FROM YOUR GUN? TRES STUPIDE, MONSIEUR.

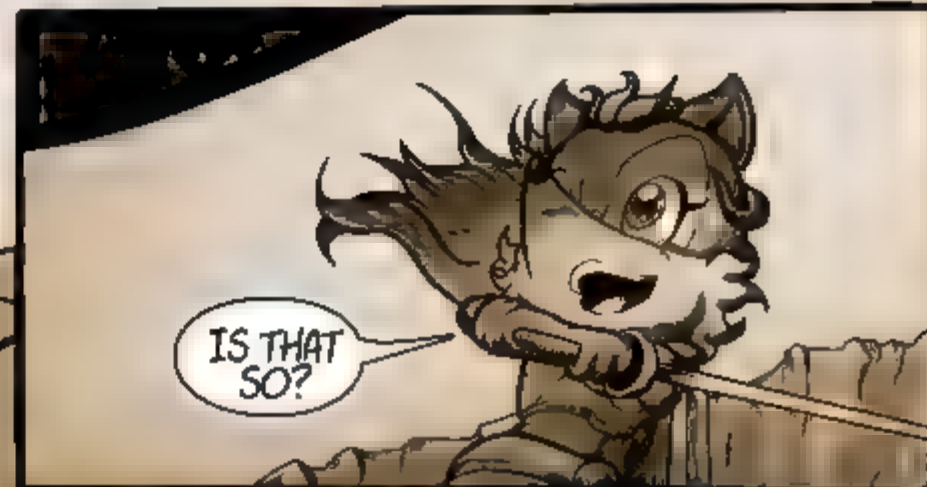


I WANT THAT BOOK.

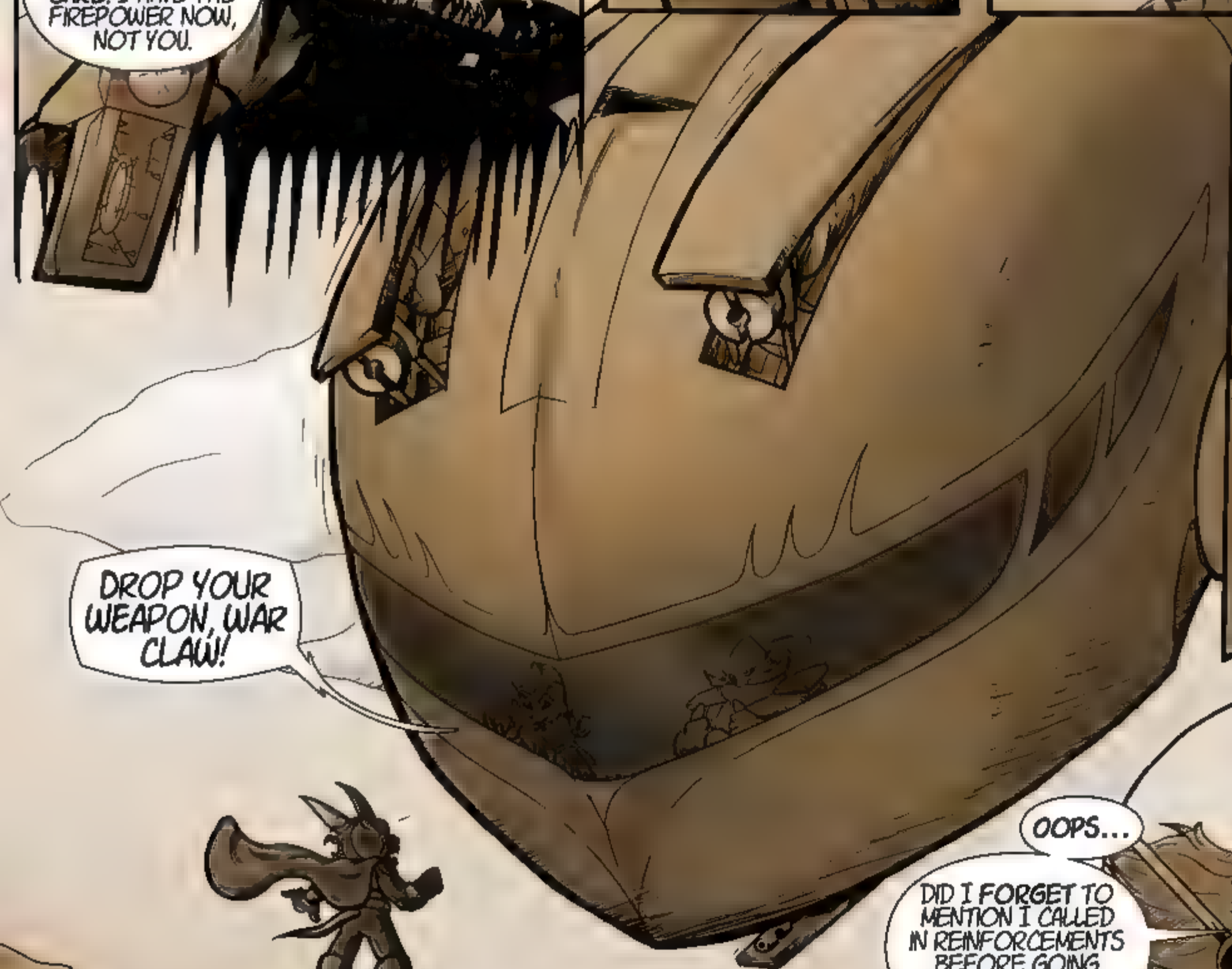
AND WHETHER I HAVE TO KILL YOU OR YOUR TWO LITTLE FRIENDS TO GET IT, I DON'T CARE. I HAVE THE FIREPOWER NOW, NOT YOU.



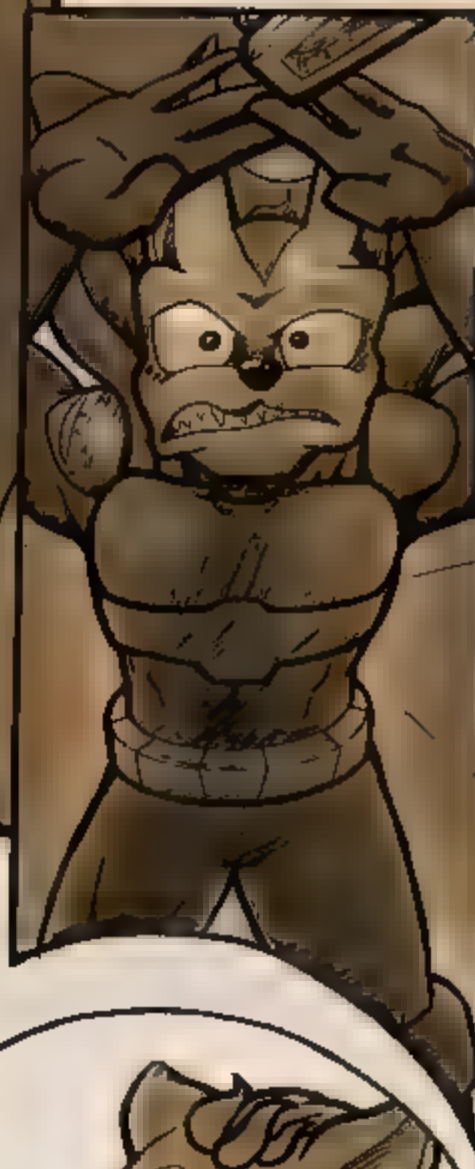
BEEP! BEEP!



IS THAT SO?



DROP YOUR WEAPON, WAR CLAW!



OOPS...

DID I FORGET TO MENTION I CALLED IN REINFORCEMENTS BEFORE GOING INTO THE TEMPLE? SUIZ-JE BÊTE.



AS SOON AS
EVANGELINE'S DIS-
TRESS SIGNAL CAME IN,
I INSISTED JULIAN AND
I TAKE THE FASTEST
SHIP AND THE BEST
SOLDIERS WE COULD
AFFORD.

WE CAME AS
QUICKLY AS WE
COULD.

LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, MAX, YOU
WORRY TOO MUCH...

...BUT THAT'S ONE OF THE
MANY REASONS I LOVE YOU.

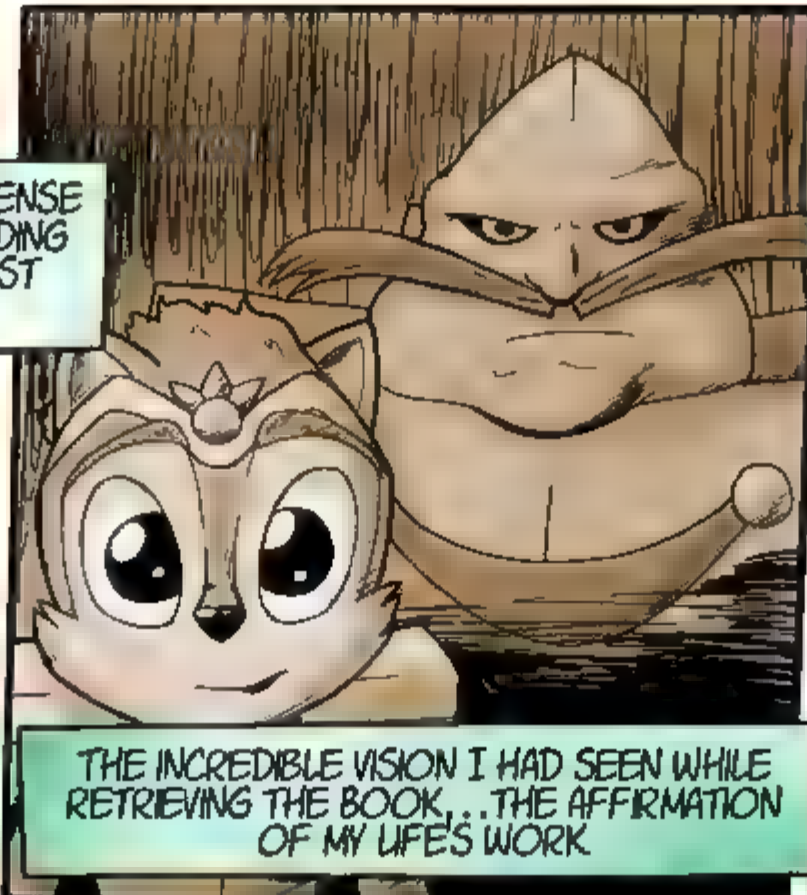
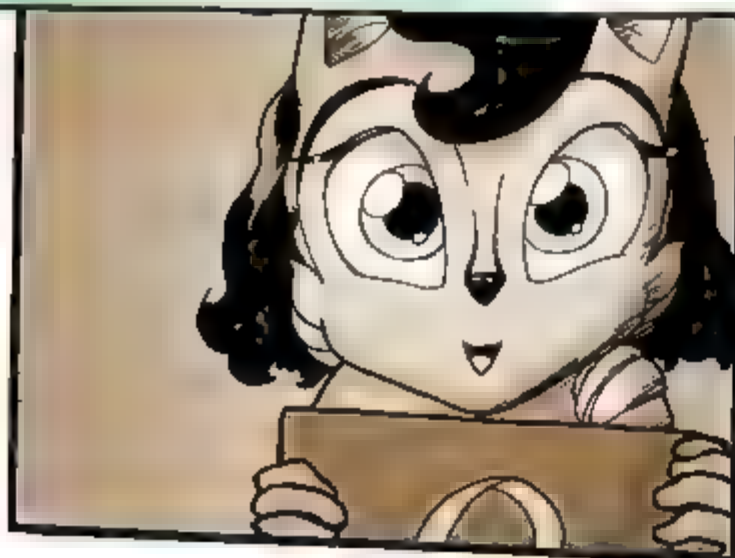
AND YOU'RE CERTAIN
YOU'RE ALRIGHT, NICOLE?
PLEASE, TELL ME
EVERYTHING.

THIS BOOK.
THE WAR CLAWS
WERE AFTER
IT.

THE BOOK?
WHATEVER
FOR?

I WANTED TO TELL HIM EVERYTHING
THEN AND THERE.

HOW THE BOOK MUST'VE BEEN AN ITEM OF IMMENSE
IMPORTANCE TO THE DROOD, PERHAPS PROVIDING
CLUES ON THE WHEREABOUTS OF THEIR MOST
SACRED TREASURES...



THE INCREDIBLE VISION I HAD SEEN WHILE
RETRIEVING THE BOOK... THE AFFIRMATION
OF MY LIFE'S WORK.

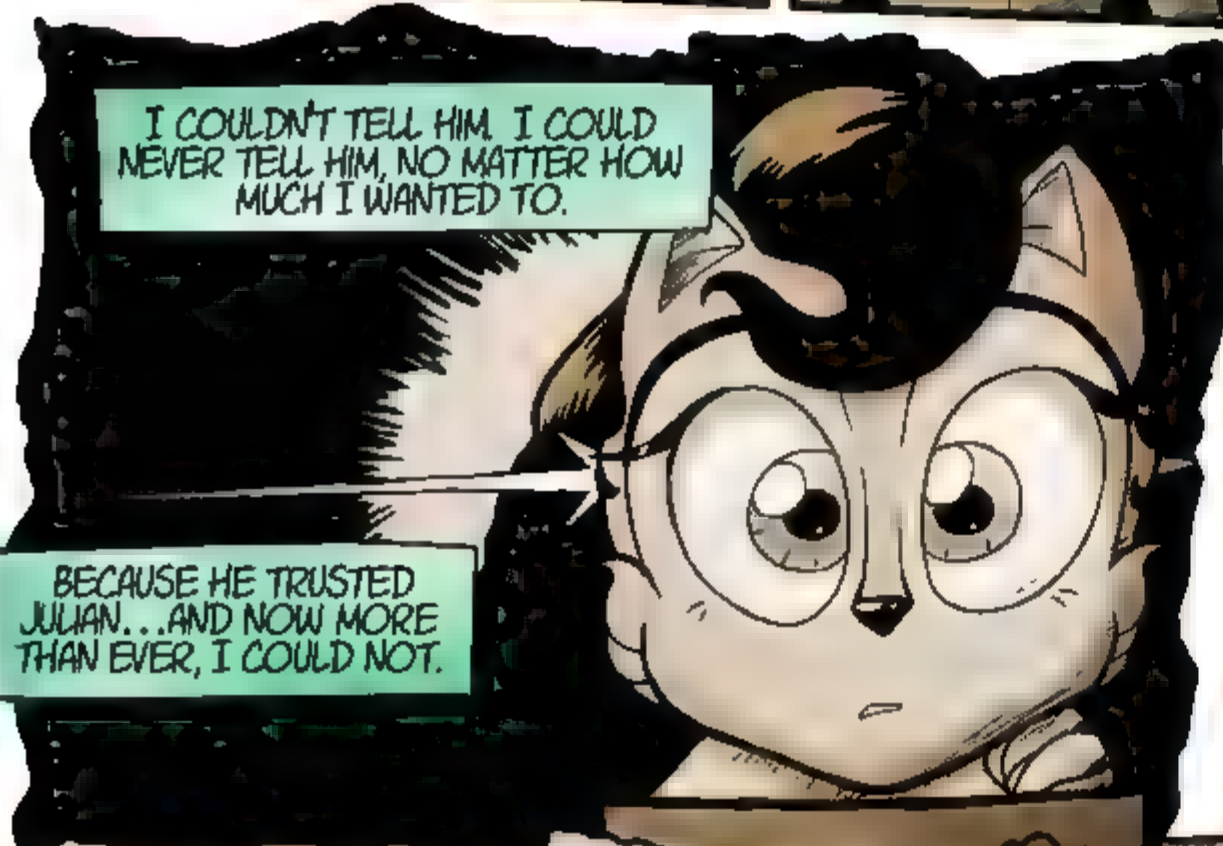
BUT THEN IT HIT ME. THE UNUSUALLY ADVANCED
TECHNOLOGY THE WAR CLAWS HAD BEEN
USING...

HIS INTEREST IN MY EXPEDITION
TO DROOD HENGE...

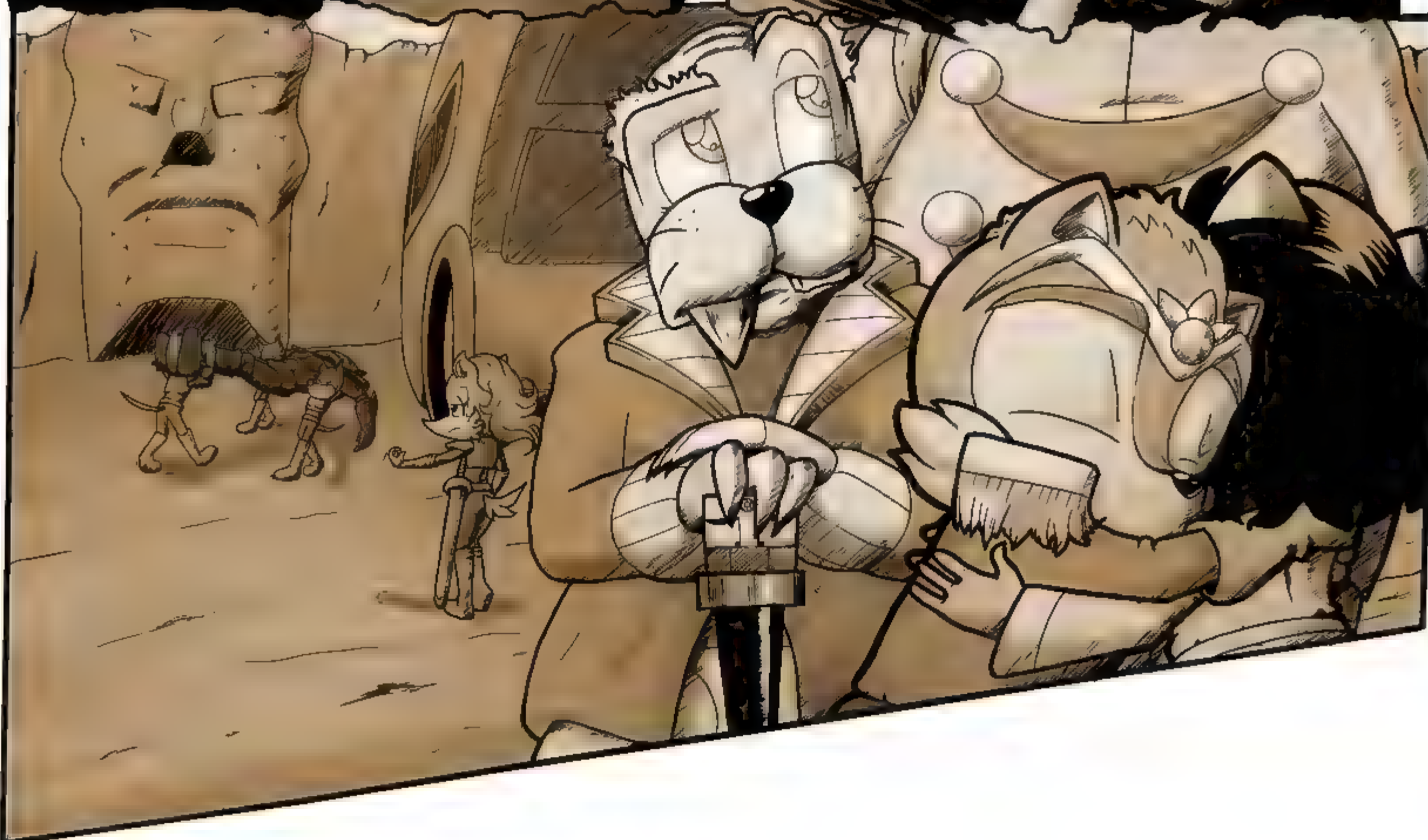


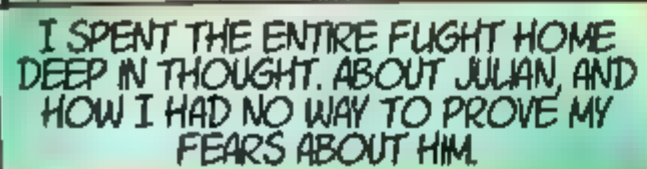
I COULDN'T TELL HIM. I COULD
NEVER TELL HIM, NO MATTER HOW
MUCH I WANTED TO.

BECAUSE HE TRUSTED
JULIAN... AND NOW MORE
THAN EVER, I COULD NOT.

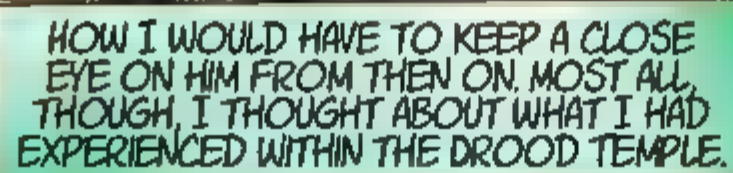


...I HAVE
NO IDEA.

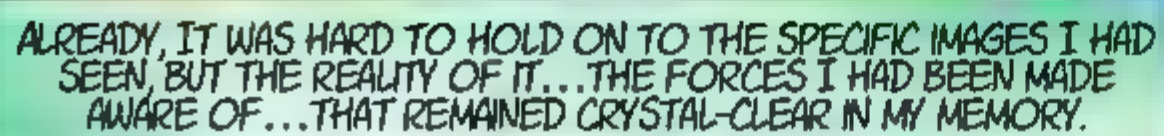




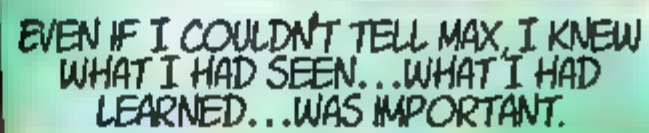
I SPENT THE ENTIRE FLIGHT HOME
DEEP IN THOUGHT, ABOUT JULIAN, AND
HOW I HAD NO WAY TO PROVE MY
FEARS ABOUT HIM.



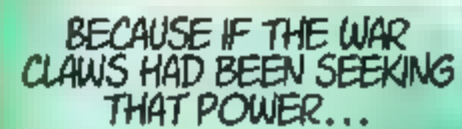
HOW I WOULD HAVE TO KEEP A CLOSE
EYE ON HIM FROM THEN ON. MOST ALL,
THOUGH, I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT I HAD
EXPERIENCED WITHIN THE DROOD TEMPLE.



ALREADY, IT WAS HARD TO HOLD ON TO THE SPECIFIC IMAGES I HAD
SEEN, BUT THE REALITY OF IT...THE FORCES I HAD BEEN MADE
AWARE OF...THAT REMAINED CRYSTAL-CLEAR IN MY MEMORY.



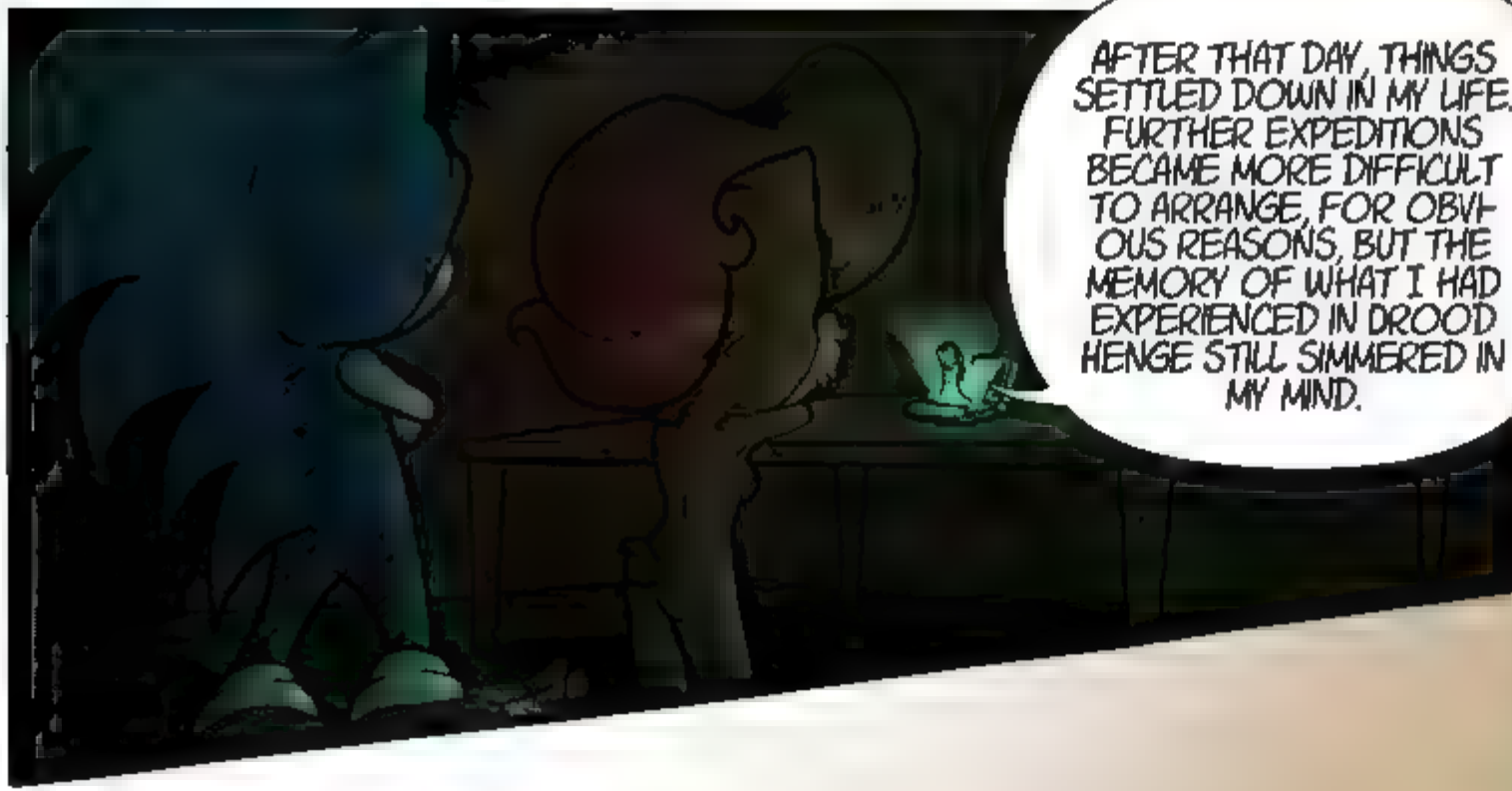
EVEN IF I COULDN'T TELL MAX, I KNEW
WHAT I HAD SEEN...WHAT I HAD
LEARNED...WAS IMPORTANT.



BECAUSE IF THE WAR
CLAWS HAD BEEN SEEKING
THAT POWER...



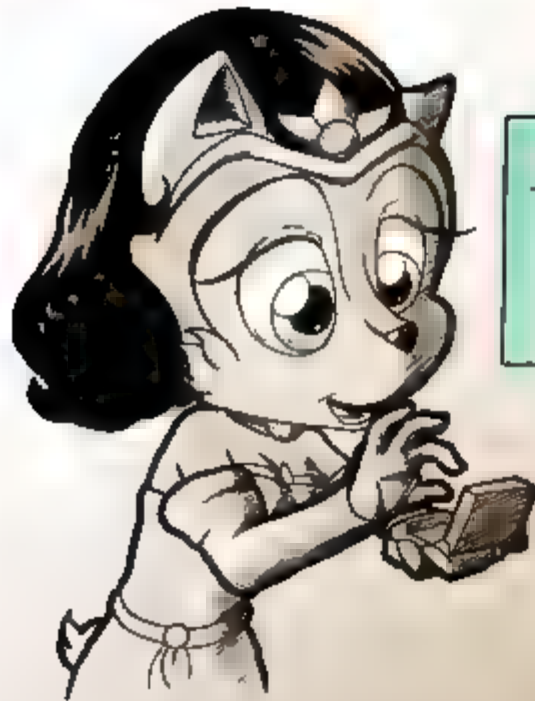
...WHO ELSE MIGHT ONE DAY TRY TO
FIND IT? AND TO WHAT END?



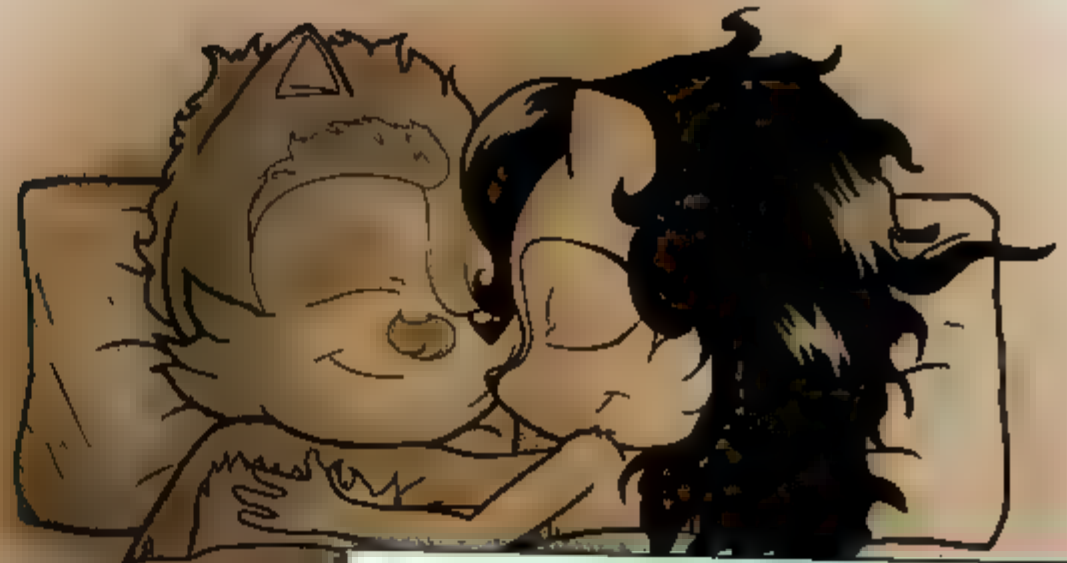
AFTER THAT DAY, THINGS SETTLED DOWN IN MY LIFE. FURTHER EXPEDITIONS BECAME MORE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, BUT THE MEMORY OF WHAT I HAD EXPERIENCED IN DROOD HENGE STILL SIMMERED IN MY MIND.



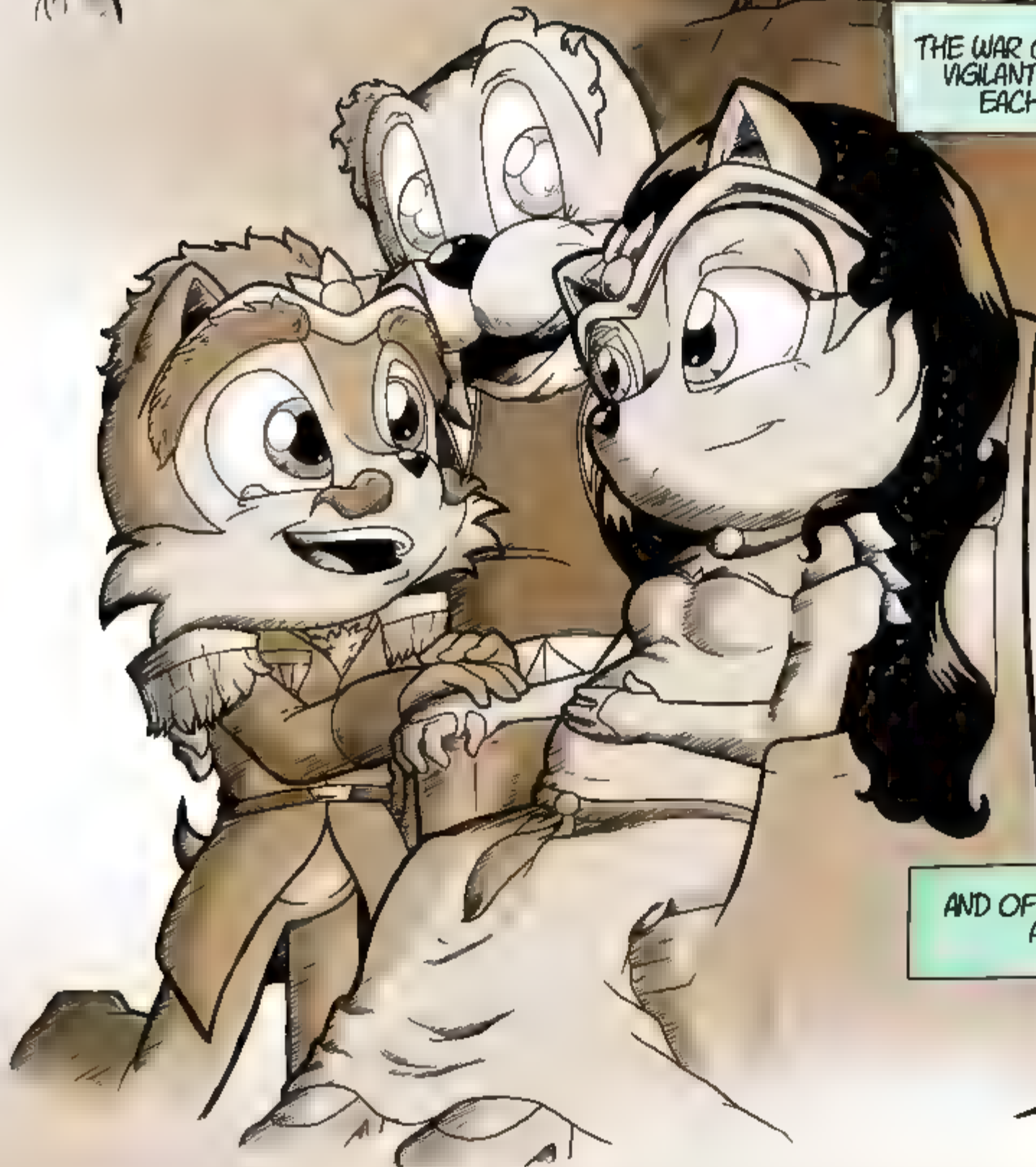
BUT, WITH TIME, THE URGENCY OF THOSE THOUGHTS PASSED, AND LIFE RETURNED TO ITS REGULAR RHYTHM.



BY THE END OF THE NEXT YEAR, I HAD JUST ABOUT FINISHED MY MINI-COMPUTER.



THE WAR CONTINUED, BUT MAX AND I KEPT VIGILANT. WE DREW STRENGTH FROM EACH OTHER...AND COMFORT.



AND OF COURSE, TWO YEARS AFTER THAT....

MY CONCERNS ABOUT JULIAN REMAINED, AND STILL DO, BUT AS CLOSE AS I WATCHED HIM, I STILL HAVE YET TO FIND ANY PROOF OF HIS TREASON.

BESIDES, I HAD OTHER THINGS ON MY MIND.

WELL, THE GOOD NEWS IS, YOUR BABY IS PERFECTLY HEALTHY AND SHOULD COME ALONG RIGHT ON SCHEDULE IN JUST A FEW WEEKS.

HOWEVER, THE REST OF THE TEST WORK HAS COME BACK, MY QUEEN, AND I'M AFRAID THERE ARE SOME... IRREGULARITIES.

ABNORMALLY HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, COUPLED WITH A LOW PLATELET COUNT... YOUR MAJESTY, I'M AFRAID YOU MAY HAVE PRE-ECLAMPSIA.

PRE-ECLAMPSIA? WHAT IS THAT...?

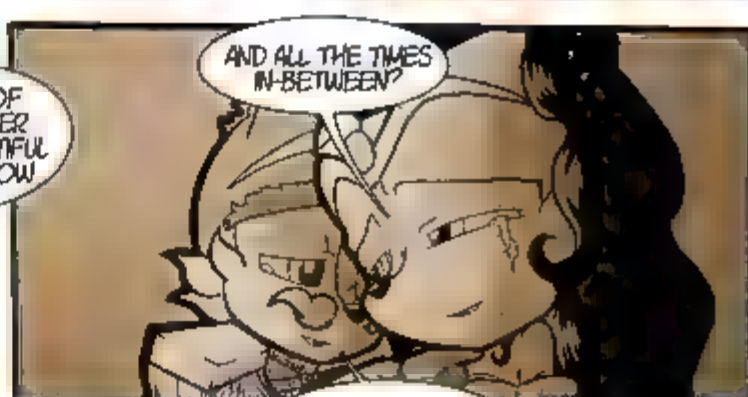
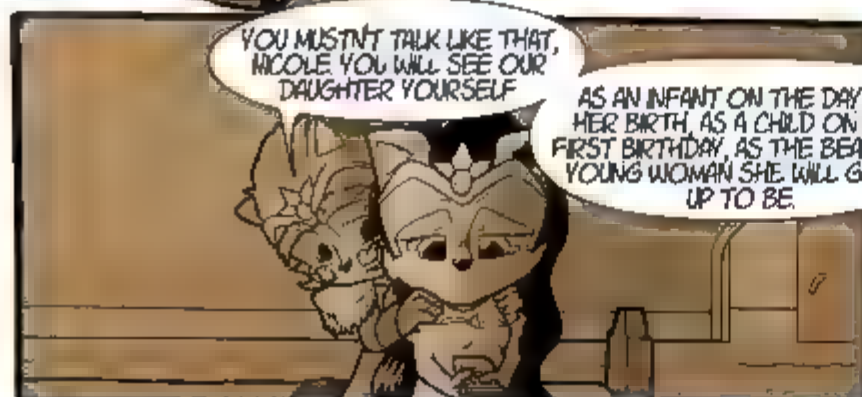
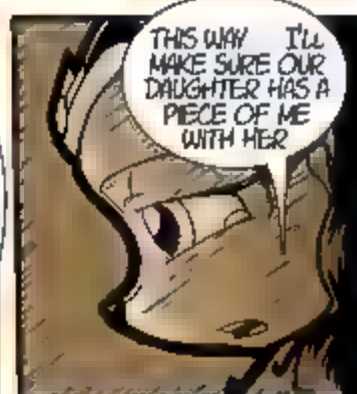
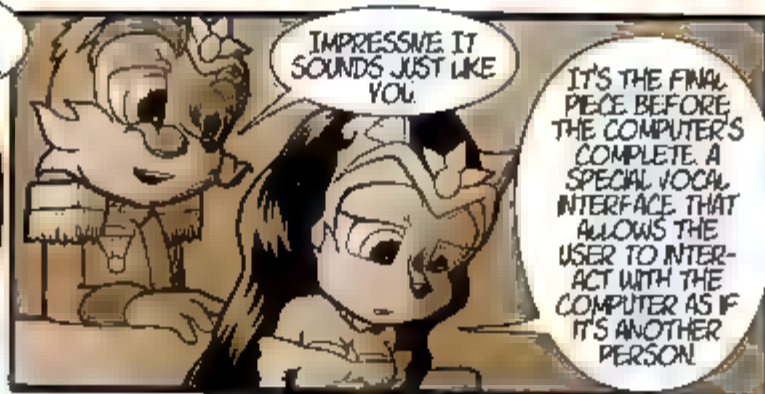
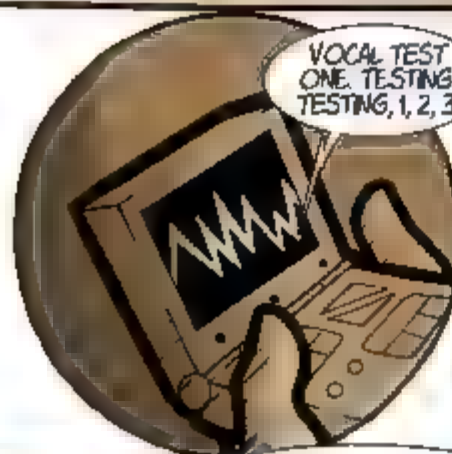
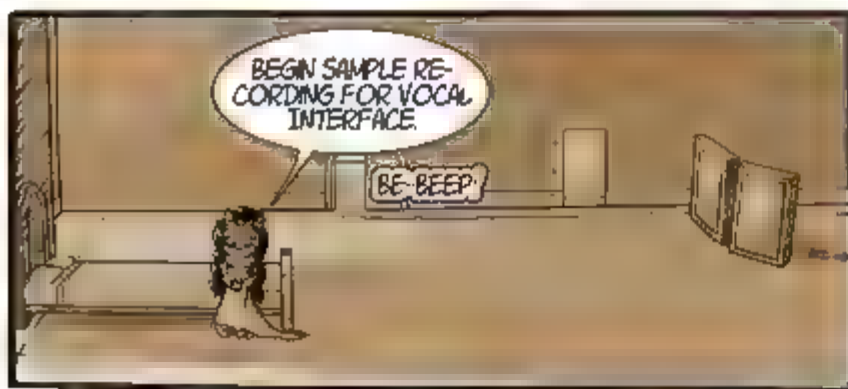
IT'S A DANGEROUS CONDITION THAT SOMETIMES DEVELOPS IN A MOTHER DURING PREGNANCY.


IT DOESN'T ALWAYS CAUSE IMMEDIATE SUFFERING, BUT IT MAY POTENTIALLY PROVE FATAL DURING THE BIRTHING.

I'D LIKE A FEW DAYS TO LOOK OVER THE RESULTS WITH THE REST OF MY STAFF MORE THOROUGHLY SO WE CAN CONFIRM THE DIAGNOSIS AND PLAN A COURSE OF ACTION.

BUT, AS A WARNING... WE MAY NEED TO STIMULATE AN EARLY BIRTH FOR THE WELL-BEING OF THE BABY.


...I UNDERSTAND






AND THAT... THAT BRINGS US TO RIGHT NOW. I STILL DON'T KNOW WHAT'S...WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME NOW.

BUT I DO KNOW THAT THE SECRETS I HOLD...MY FEARS ABOUT JULIAN, MY EXPERIENCE AT DROOD HEDGE...THESE THINGS CAN NOT DIE WITH ME.




THE RISK TO OUR PEOPLE...TO MAX...TO YOU...IS TOO GREAT TO LET THAT HAPPEN.



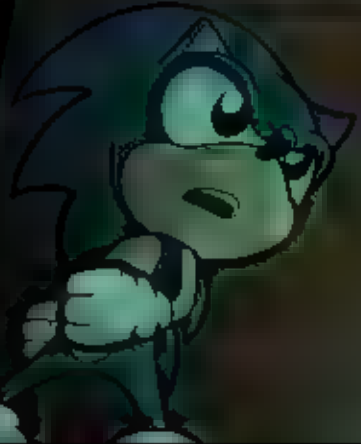
I SINCERELY HOPE YOU NEVER SEE THIS MESSAGE, MY DAUGHTER. I HOPE YOU AND I WILL KNOW EACH OTHER FACE-TO-FACE, BUT IF YOU ARE SEEING THIS MESSAGE...

THEN IT MOST LIKELY MEANS SOMEONE ELSE IS SEEKING THE INCREDIBLE POWER I LEARNED ABOUT THAT DAY AT DROOD HEDGE, AND YOU NEED TO KNOW WHAT I KNOW.



THERE ARE SEVEN... CHAOS EMERALDS. THEY HAVE DIFFERING FORMS, DIFFERENT POWERS, AND THEY ARE HIDDEN ALL ACROSS MOBIUS, BUT THEY ARE ALL SOME FORM OF STONE OR CRYSTAL.

AND AS POWERFUL AS THEY ARE INDIVIDUALLY, IF ALL SEVEN ARE GATHERED IN ONE PLACE... I FEAR FOR THE SAFETY OF THE ENTIRE PLANET.



SEARCH THROUGH THE RUINS OF THE DROOD, OF MAGA, OF THE MANDARRA... OF ALL THE ANCIENT PEOPLES OF MOBIUS. THEY ALL CONTAIN CLUES THAT MAY HELP REVEAL THE EMERALDS' LOCATIONS, THAT THEY MAY BE PROTECTED.



I WISH THERE WERE SOME OTHER WAY TO DO THIS... SOMEONE ELSE I COULD ASK. I KNOW WHAT A TERRIBLE BURDEN THIS IS TO PLACE ON YOU, AND I HOPE YOU NEVER HAVE TO BEAR IT

OR IF YOU DO, THAT YOU HAVE GROWN INTO THE AMAZING YOUNG WOMAN I KNOW YOUR FATHER WILL RAISE YOU TO BE.

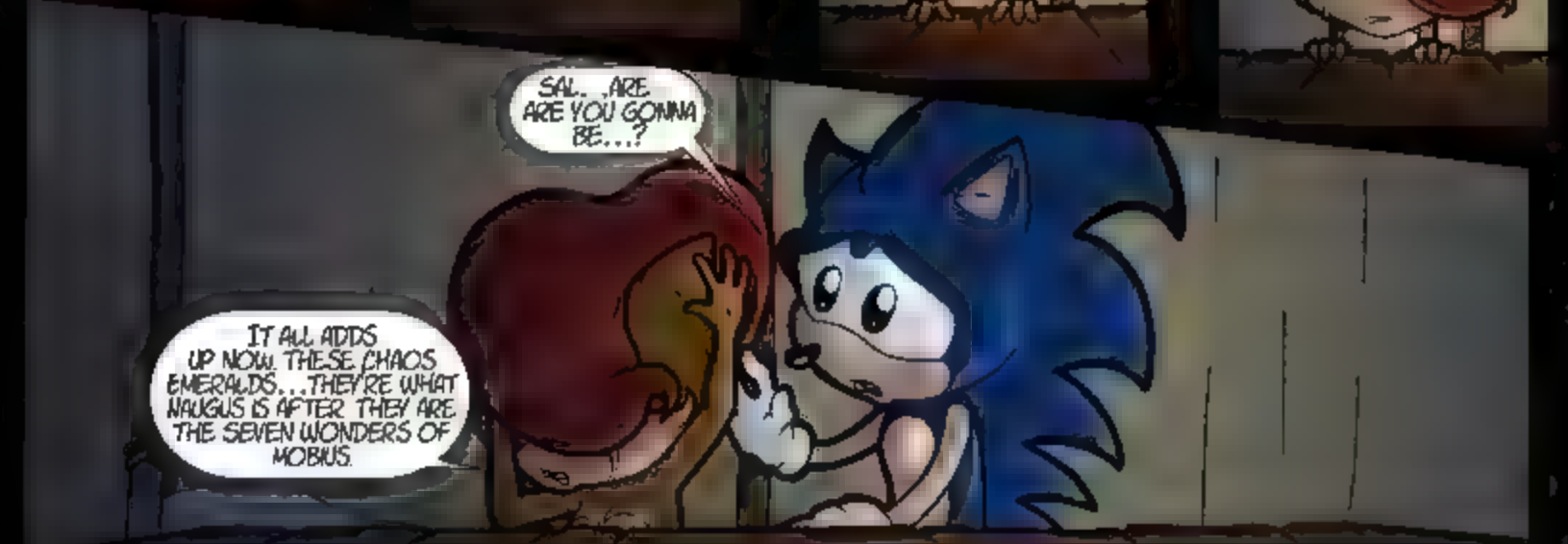
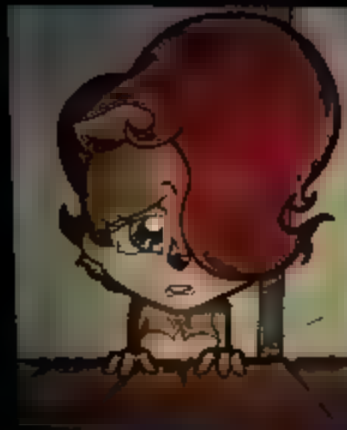
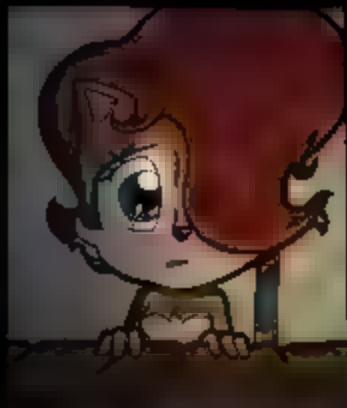
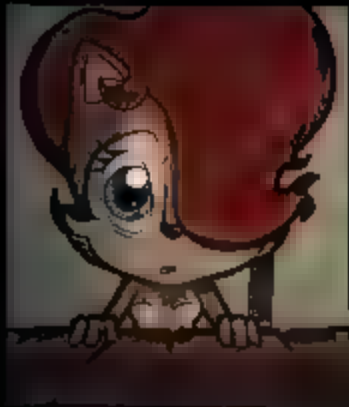
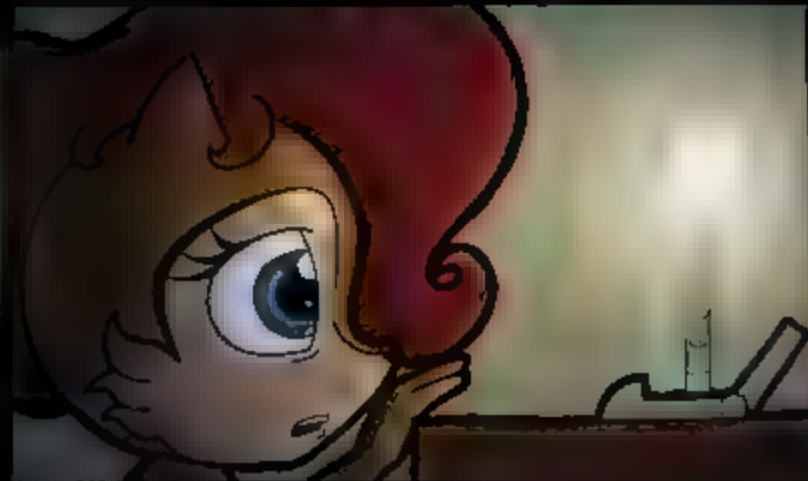


BUT NO MATTER WHAT THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE I WANT YOU TO KNOW.



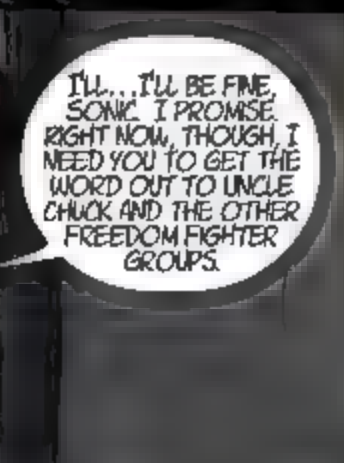
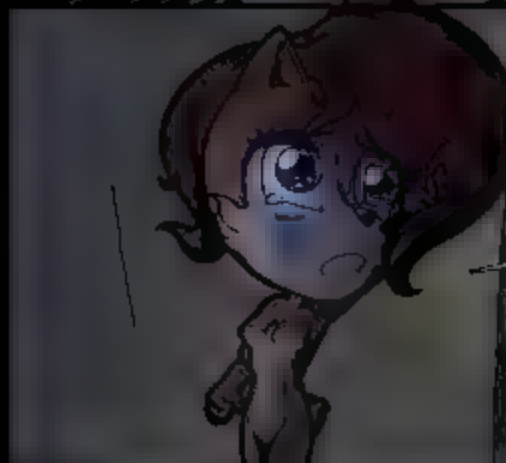
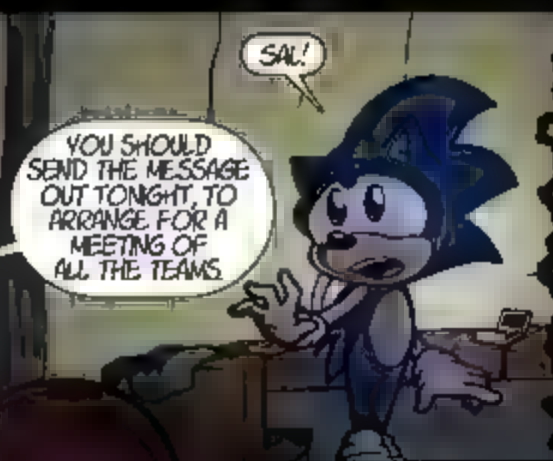
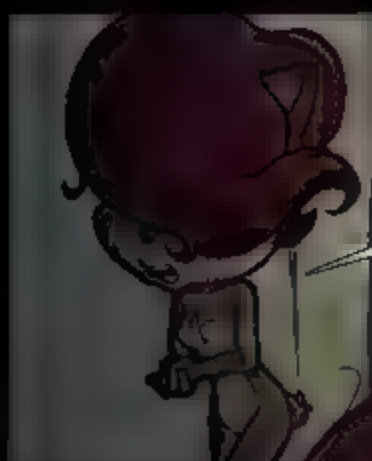
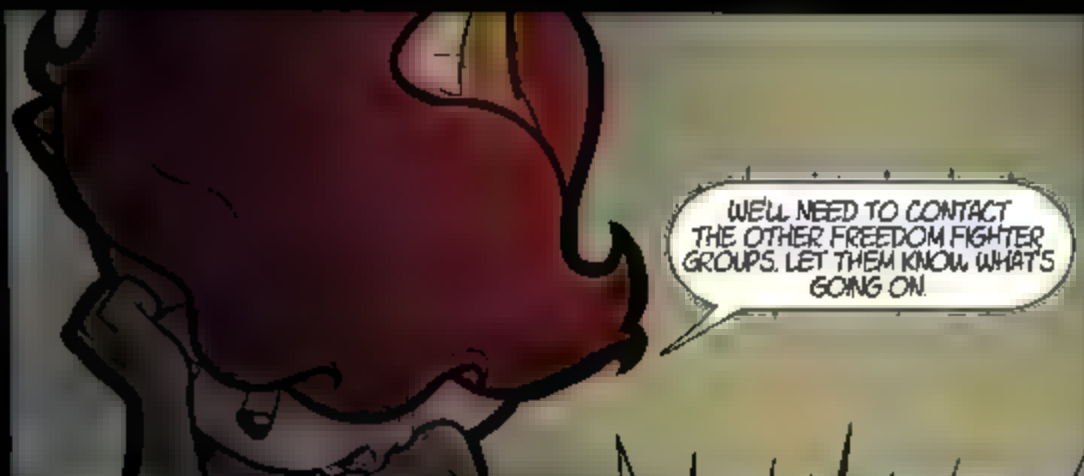
I LOVE YOU. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO ME, NO MATTER IF YOU EVER SEE THIS MESSAGE OR NOT... NO MATTER IF WE NEVER ACTUALLY MEET..

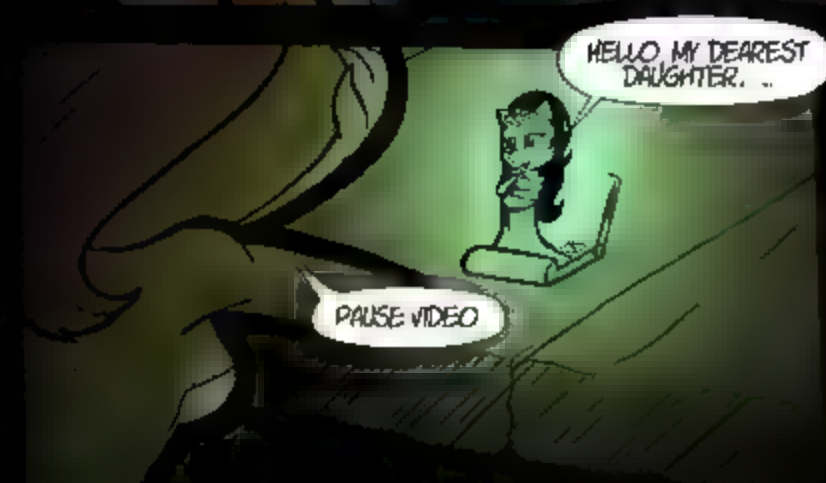
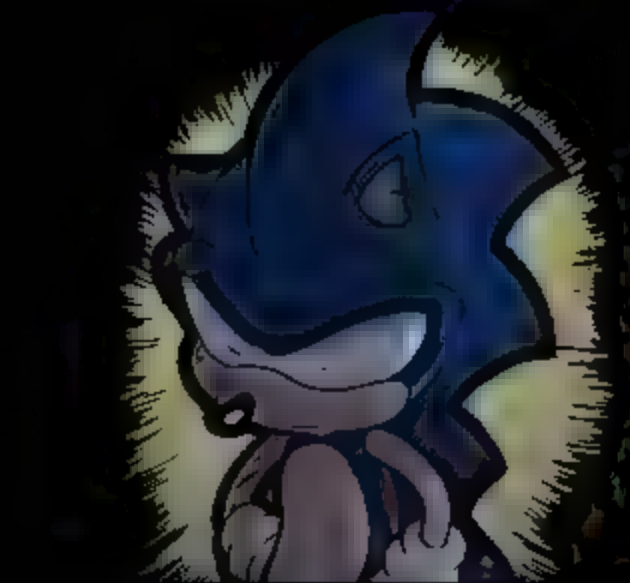
I LOVE YOU WITH ALL MY HEART MY DEAREST DAUGHTER

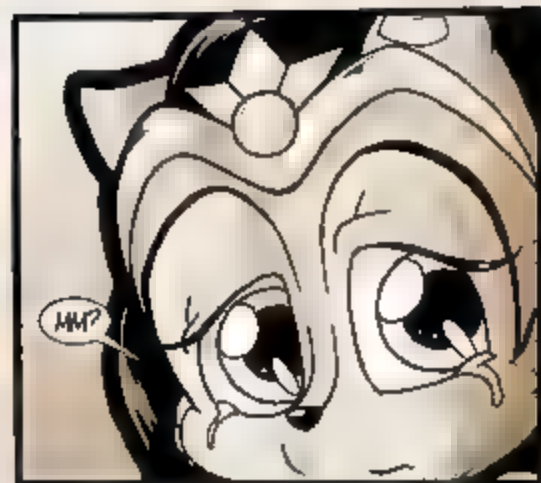
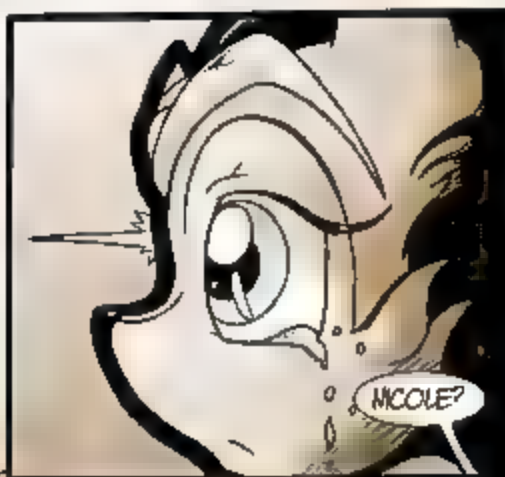


SAL... ARE YOU GONNA BE...?

IT ALL ADDS UP NOW. THESE CHAOS EMERALDS... THEY'RE WHAT NAUGUS IS AFTER. THEY ARE THE SEVEN WONDERS OF MOBIUS.









THE END





SEASON

New artist coming soon



Head Writer and Story Developer: E. Mason

Colours and Character Design: Stephen Wood

Pencils, Ink and Character Design: Tim "T" Campbell

Head Producer and Editor of Main Chapters: Paul Scott

Head Producers and Editors of Side Story's: Paul Scott, John Roberts

Producers and Directors of Sea3on and FUS: Paul Scott and John Roberts

Download Organizer: Douglas G. Bigelow

If you wish to advertise Sea3on on your website or blog please use one of our banners that you can find here:

<http://www.sonicsatam.com/linking.php> Remember, linking to us helps give Sea3on popularity and more fans. The more fans, the better we get.

Thank you.

For further talk on Sea3on, please join the FUS forums:

<http://sonicsatam.com/forums/>

He's the Fastest thing ALIIIIIIIIIVE!



SEA3ON

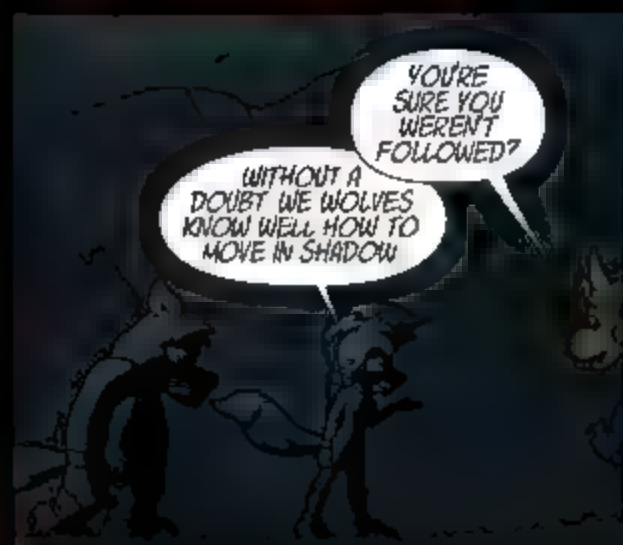
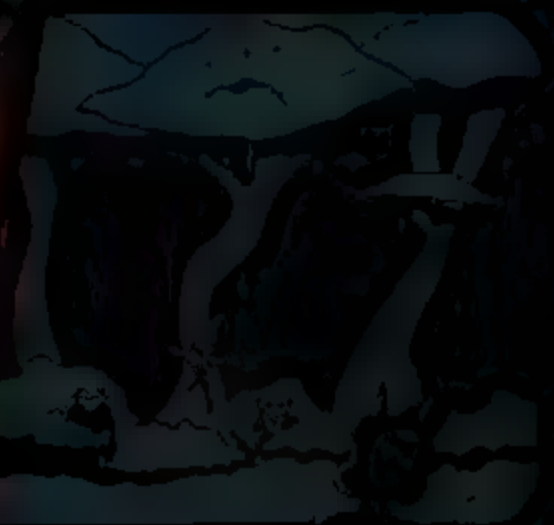
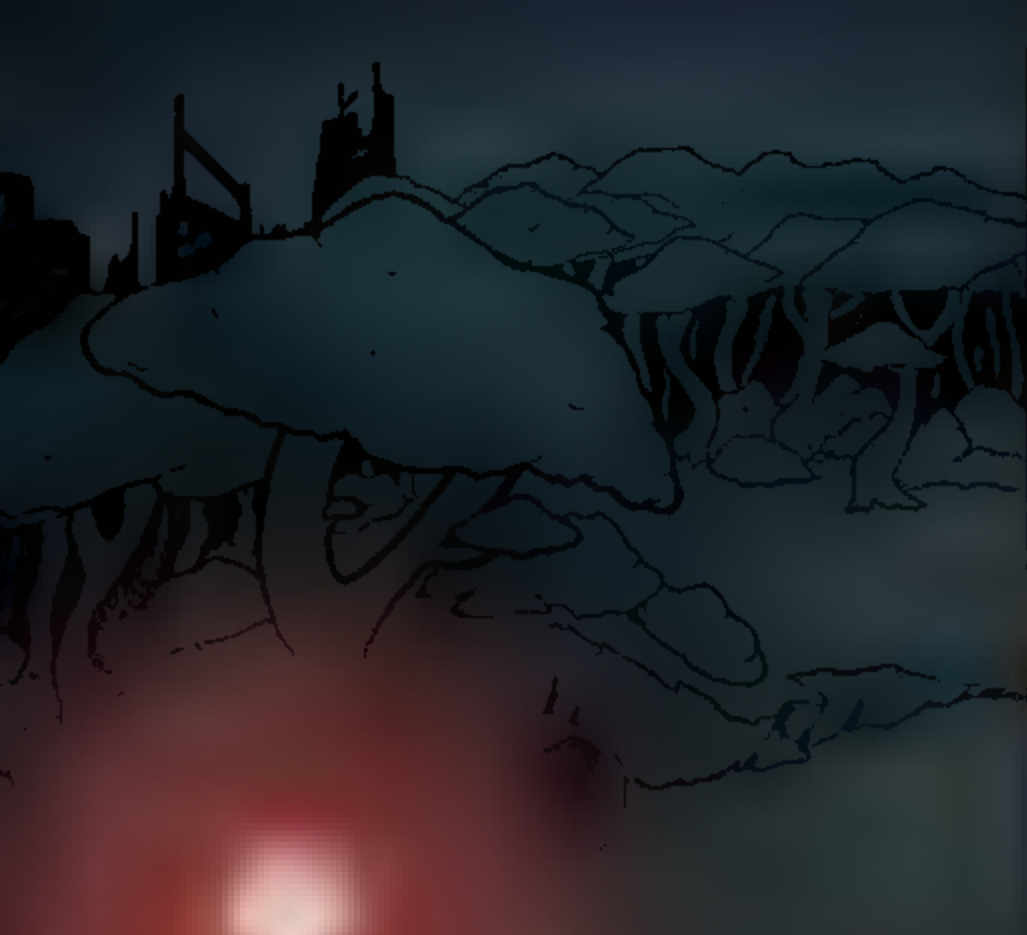



SEASON

Chapter six Group Dynamics



WRITTEN BY ERIC MASON
PENCILS + INKS BY TIM CAMPBELL
+ LETTERING BY STEPHEN WOOD
EDITED BY PAUL SCOTT
CHARACTERS OWNED BY DIC AND SEGA





HEY THERE,
LUPE...

GLAD YOU
COULD MAKE
THE PARTY!

SEASON

GROUP DYNAMICS

WRITTEN BY ERIC MASON
PENCILS + INKS BY TIM CAMPBELL
COLORS + LETTERING BY STEPHEN WOOD
EDITED BY PAUL SCOTT
CHARACTERS OWNED BY DIC AND SEGA



...AND IT IS MY BELIEF GOING OFF THE INFORMATION MY MOTHER'S MESSAGE REVEALED, THAT HUNTING DOWN ALL SEVEN OF THESE 'CHAOS EMERALDS' IS SNIVELY AND NAUGUS' MAIN OBJECTIVE.


SO THE WIND CRYSTAL YOU AND YOUR TEAM DISCOVERED IN MAGA WAS, IN FACT, ONE OF THESE EMERALDS, PRINCESS?

YES... "CHAOS IS POWER ENRICHED BY THE HEART" AND ALL THAT, RIGHT?

SOUND T'ME LIKE WE MIGHT JUST BE BETTER OFF LEAVING THESE EMERALDS ALONE 'N' FOCUS ON SIMPLY SHUTTING SNIVELY'S SEARCH DOWN.

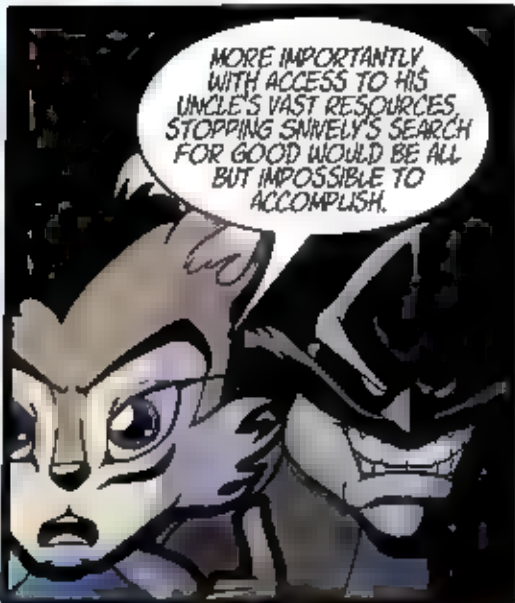
THAT'S OUR CURRENT THEORY, YES.

IT MATCHES WITH THE SCROLL GIVEN TO US BY THE GUARDIAN WE ENCOUNTERED IN ROBOTROPOLIS, WHICH WE NOW BELIEVE WAS INTENDED TO WARN US ABOUT THE EMERALDS AND THEIR POWERS.

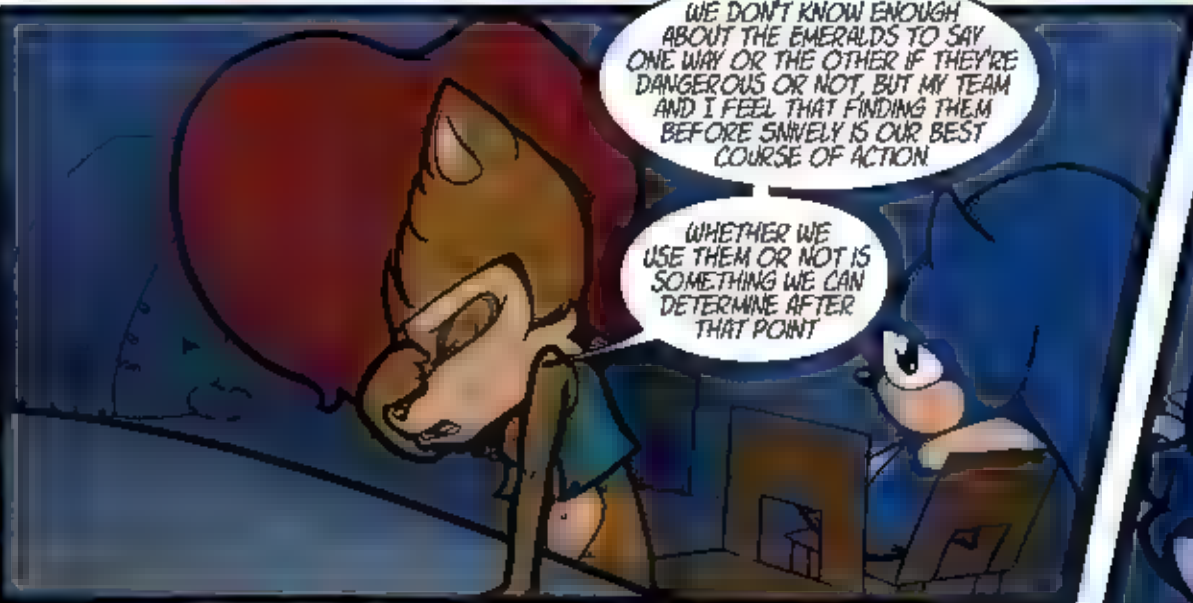


WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, CAPTAIN POLLO SIR, I DON'T SEE HOW THAT'S AN OPTION.

IF FORCES THIS POWERFUL DO EXIST, WE NEED TO FIND THEM. THEY COULD BE OUR BEST BET FOR FINALLY WINNING THIS WAR!




MORE IMPORTANTLY, WITH ACCESS TO HIS UNCLE'S VAST RESOURCES, STOPPING SNIVELY'S SEARCH FOR GOOD WOULD BE ALL BUT IMPOSSIBLE TO ACCOMPLISH.




WE DON'T KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE EMERALDS TO SAY ONE WAY OR THE OTHER IF THEY'RE DANGEROUS OR NOT, BUT MY TEAM AND I FEEL THAT FINDING THEM BEFORE SNIVELY IS OUR BEST COURSE OF ACTION.

WHETHER WE USE THEM OR NOT IS SOMETHING WE CAN DETERMINE AFTER THAT POINT.

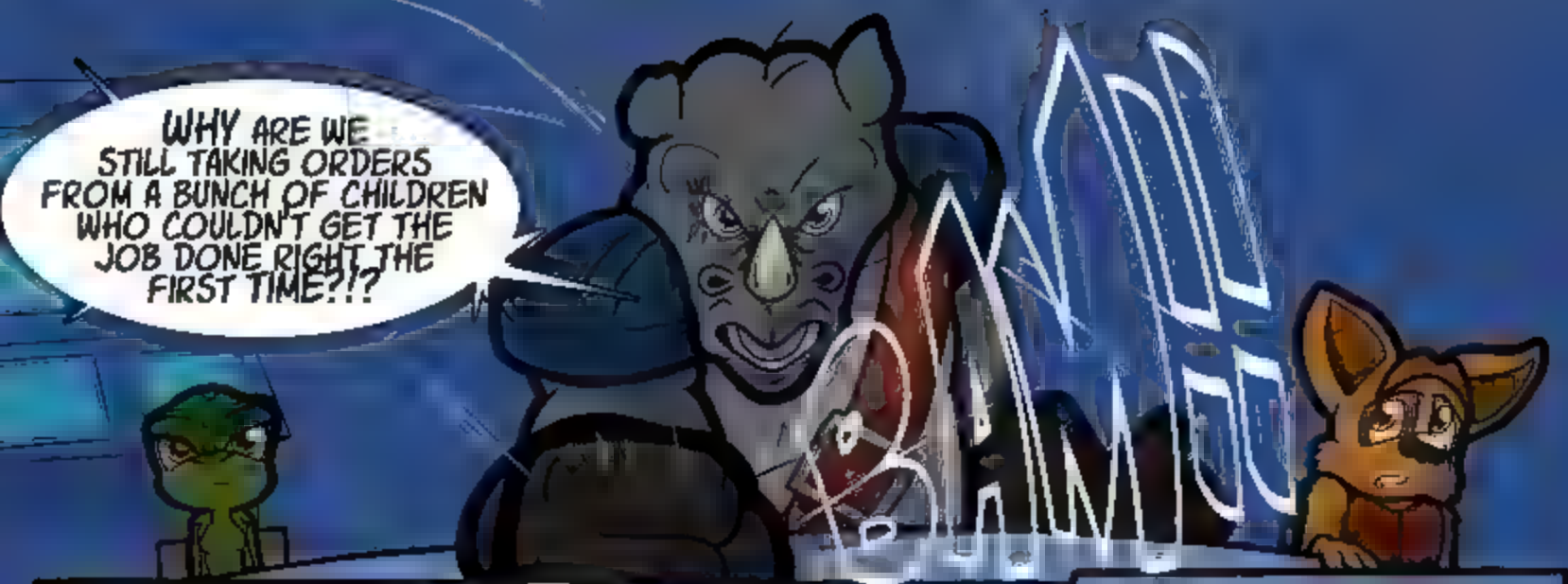


ANY QUESTIONS?



THEREFORE, I RECOMMEND THAT EACH OF OUR TEAMS BE DEBRIEFED ON THE FULL DETAILS OF THE GUARDIAN'S SCROLL AND MY MOTHER'S MESSAGE, AND WE DETERMINE HERE AND NOW WHICH TEAMS TO SEND SEARCHING FOR WHICH EMERALD.

JUST ONE.



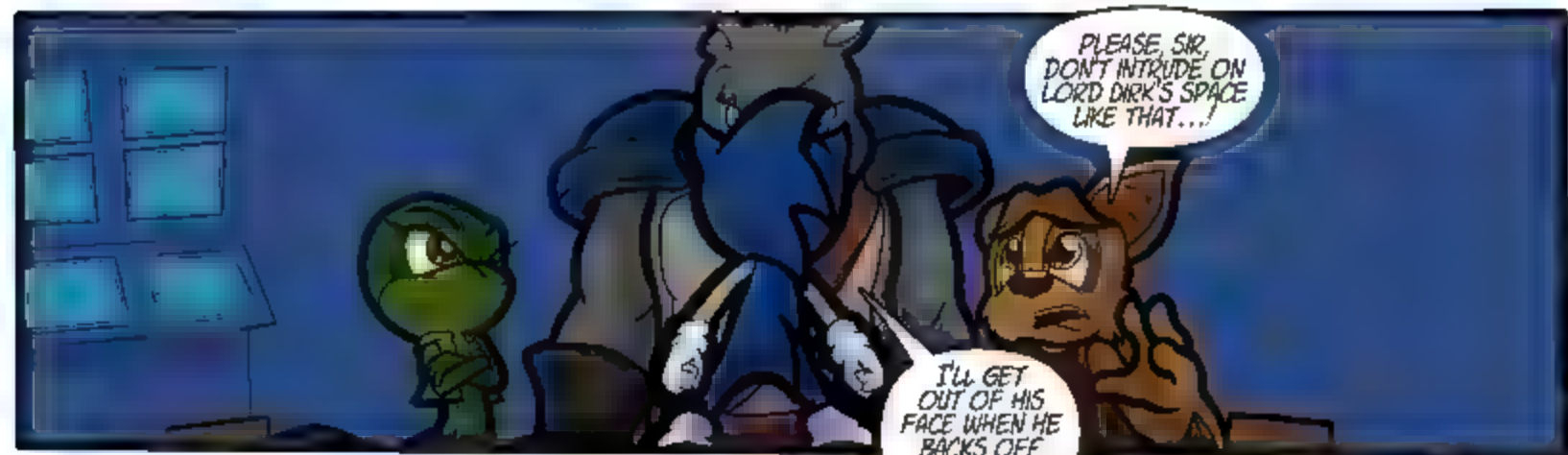
WHY ARE WE STILL TAKING ORDERS FROM A BUNCH OF CHILDREN WHO COULDN'T GET THE JOB DONE RIGHT THE FIRST TIME?!?



SHOW SOME RESPECT, DIRK. THAT'S THE PRINCESS YOU'RE TALKING TO!

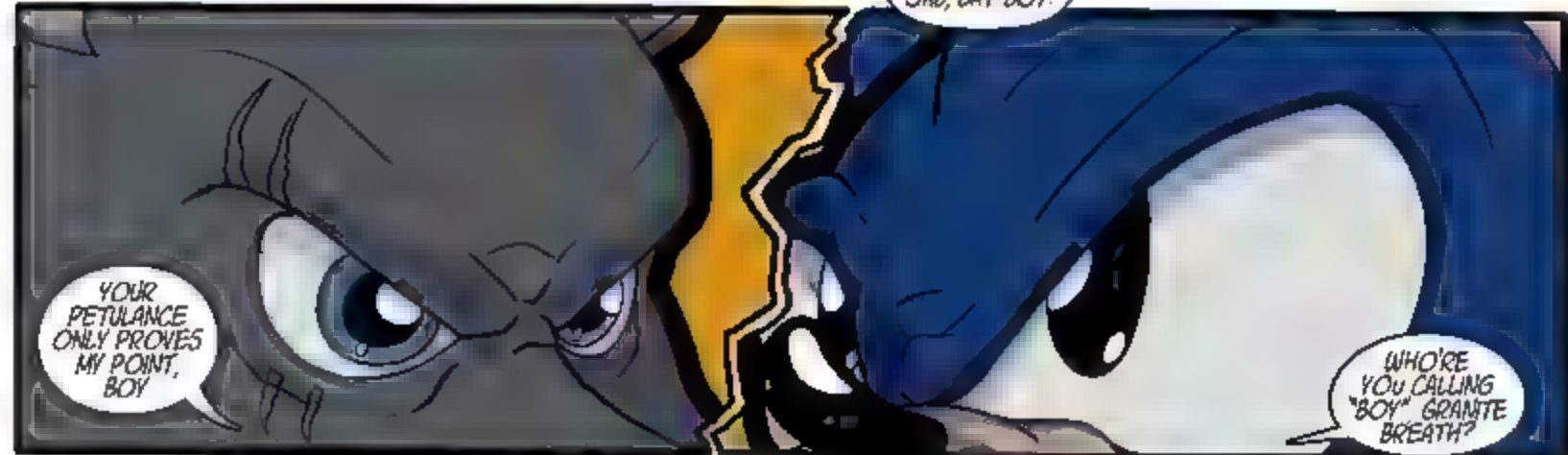
THAT TITLE HOLDS LITTLE MEANING HERE

THEN HOW ABOUT "LEADER OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS"? DOES THAT TITLE WORK BETTER FOR YA?



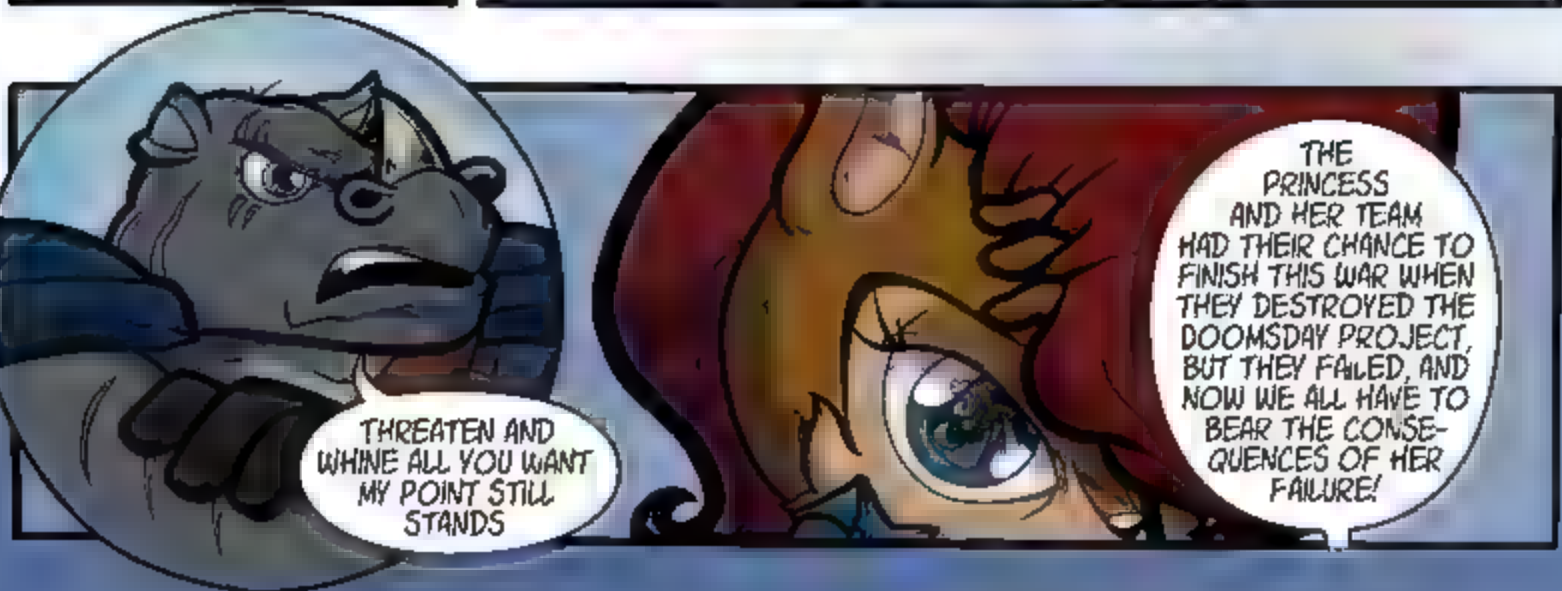
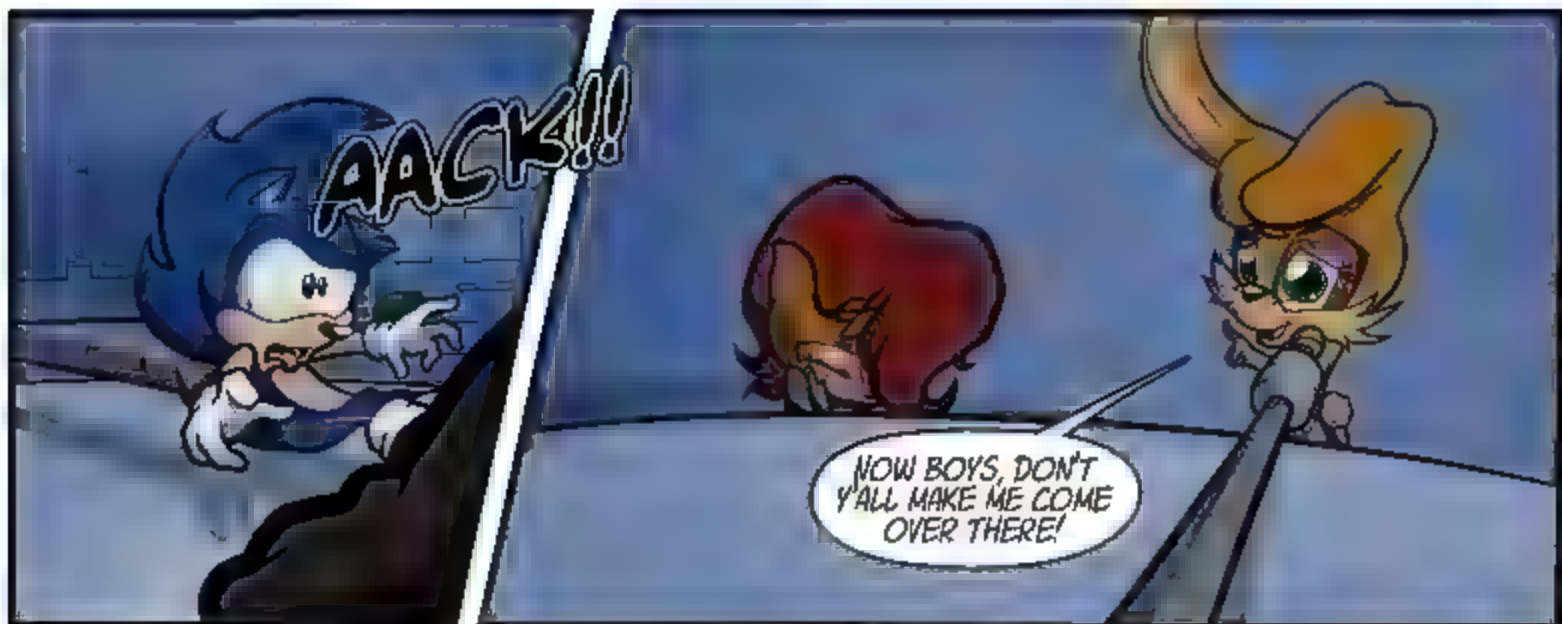
PLEASE, SIR, DON'T INTRUDE ON LORD DIRK'S SPACE LIKE THAT...

I'LL GET OUT OF HIS FACE WHEN HE BACKS OFF SAL, BAT BOY!



YOUR PETULANCE ONLY PROVES MY POINT, BOY

WHO'RE YOU CALLING "BOY" GRANITE BREATH?





I DO NOT CARE WHO IT IS, ONLY THAT WE FINALLY REALIZE WE MUST ESCAPE THIS PRINCESS AND HER WEAKNESS.



"THIS PRINCESS" IS A FRIEND OF MINE, GENERAL, AND ONE WHO HAS DONE MORE GOOD FOR OUR CAUSE THAN YOU COULD EVER DREAM OF ACHIEVING.



EVERYONE, PLEASE, CALM DOWN!

IF GENERAL DIRK FEELS CONCERNED OVER THE WAY I'VE LED MY TEAM, IT'S HIS RIGHT TO SAY SO, AND WE SHOULD.

GRIFF! GRIFF!



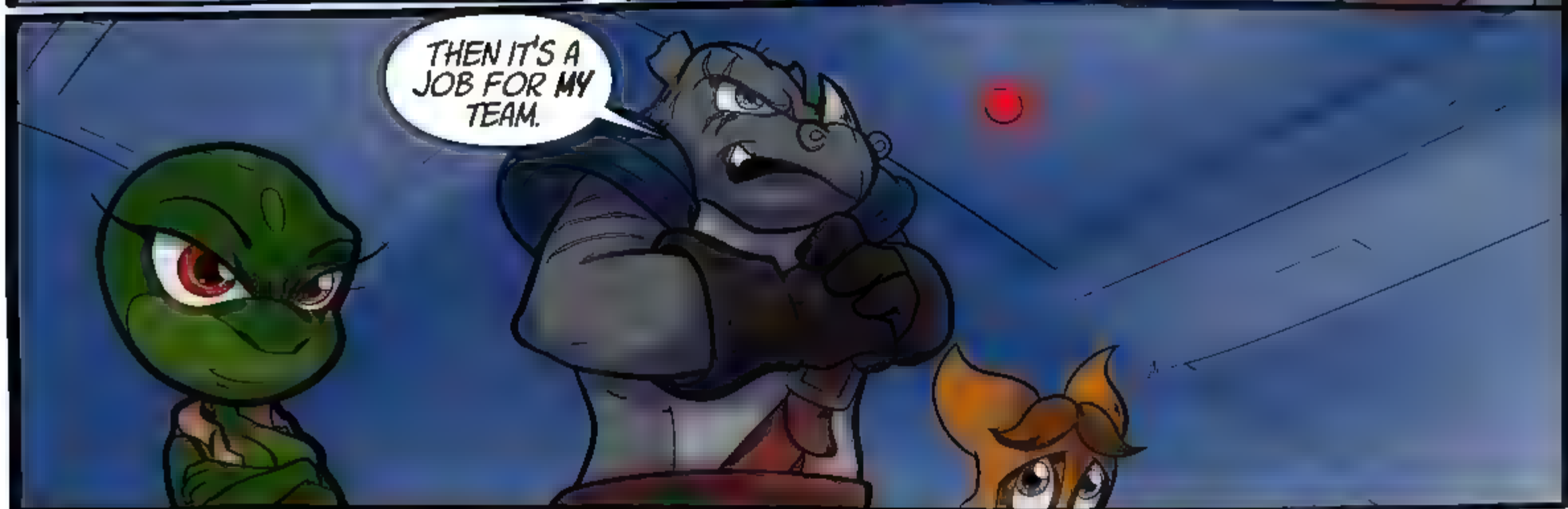
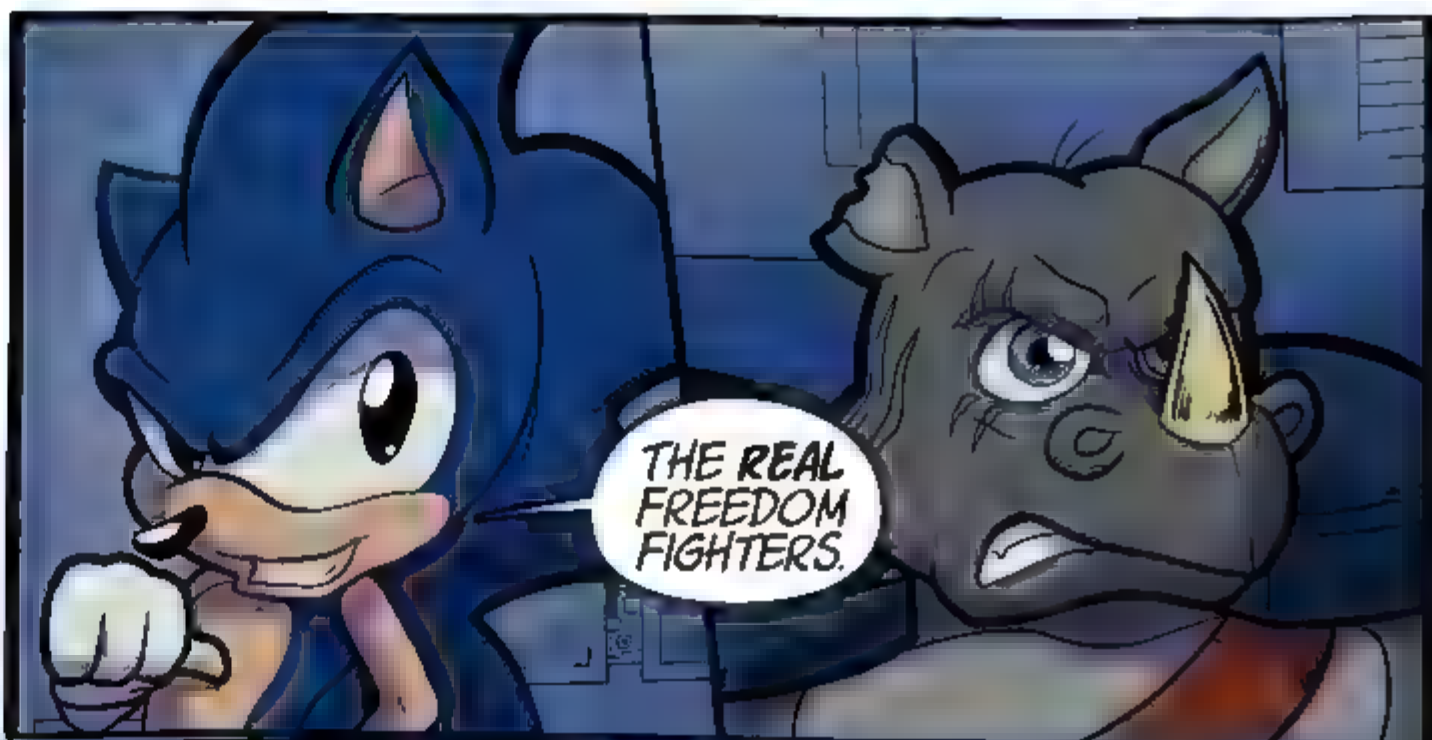
WE'VE GOT TROUBLE!

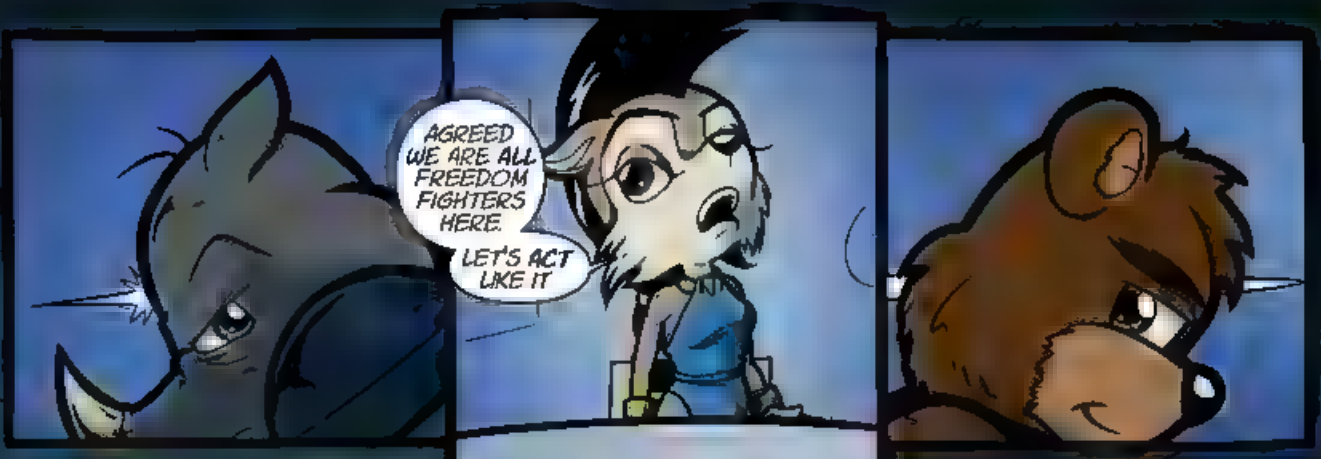


WHAT'S THE MATTER, DIRK?

OUR SENTRIES REPORT A LARGE SQUADRON OF SWAT-BOTS NOT FAR FROM THE FOREST ENTRANCE TO SUB-MOBIUS!

AND THEY'VE GOT SOME KIND OF... EQUIPMENT WITH THEM!





AGREED
WE ARE ALL
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS
HERE.

LET'S ACT
LIKE IT



LEAD
THE WAY,
DIRK.



APPROACHING
DESIGNATED
TEST SITE.

OPERATION:
RESONANCE TO
COMMENCE



GOOD, GOOD.

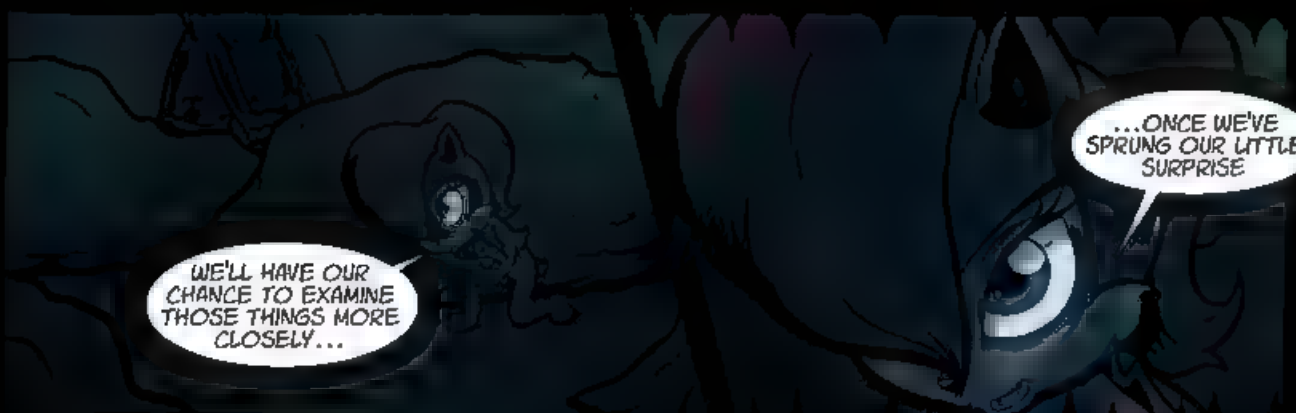
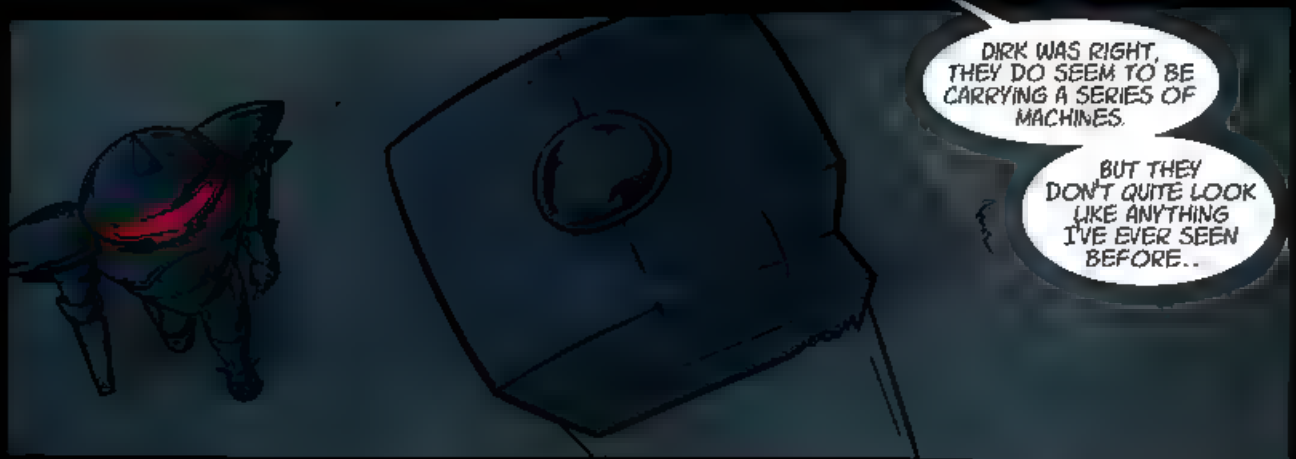
NAUGUS IS STILL
BUSY MEDITATING FOR HIS
NEXT TRACKING SPELL, MEANING
I HAVE A CHANCE TO FIND THE
NEXT CHAOS EMERALD FOR
MYSELF AND GET ONE OVER
ON THAT WRETCHED
TROLL.

OF COURSE, MY
RESONATRIX ISN'T
AS EXPANSIVE OR
PRECISE AS THE
CHAOS EYE...

BUT THAT'S
THE PRICE I PAY
FOR BEING ABLE
TO BUILD IT
FASTER

CALLING SWATBOT
UNIT LEADER: ANY SIGN
OF UNWANTED RODENTS
IN THE AREA?

NOT YET LORD
SNIVELY...





PRIORITY ONE
FREEDOM FIGHTER
SPOTTED!

SPECIAL
DELIVERY!



NOW
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS!

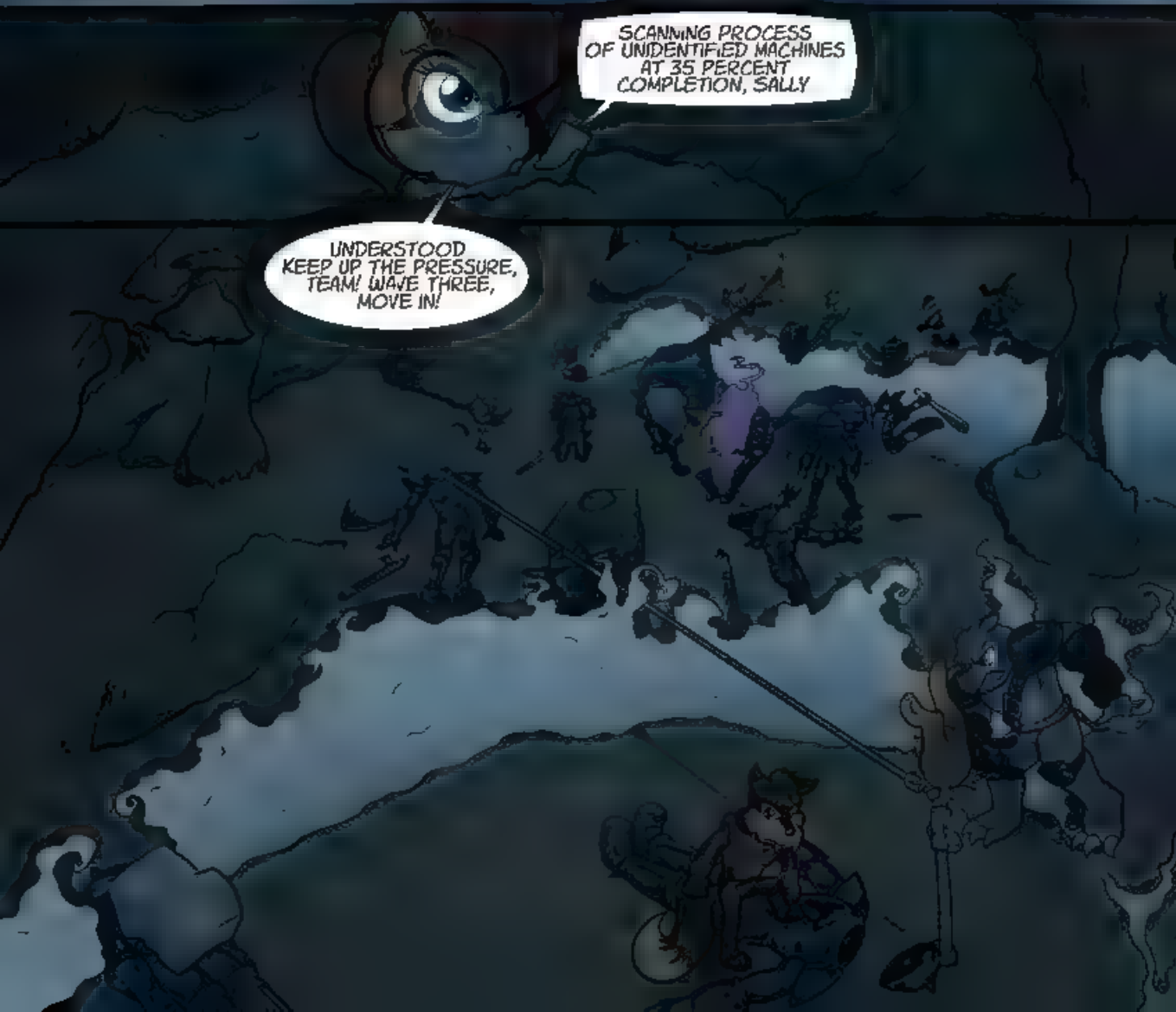
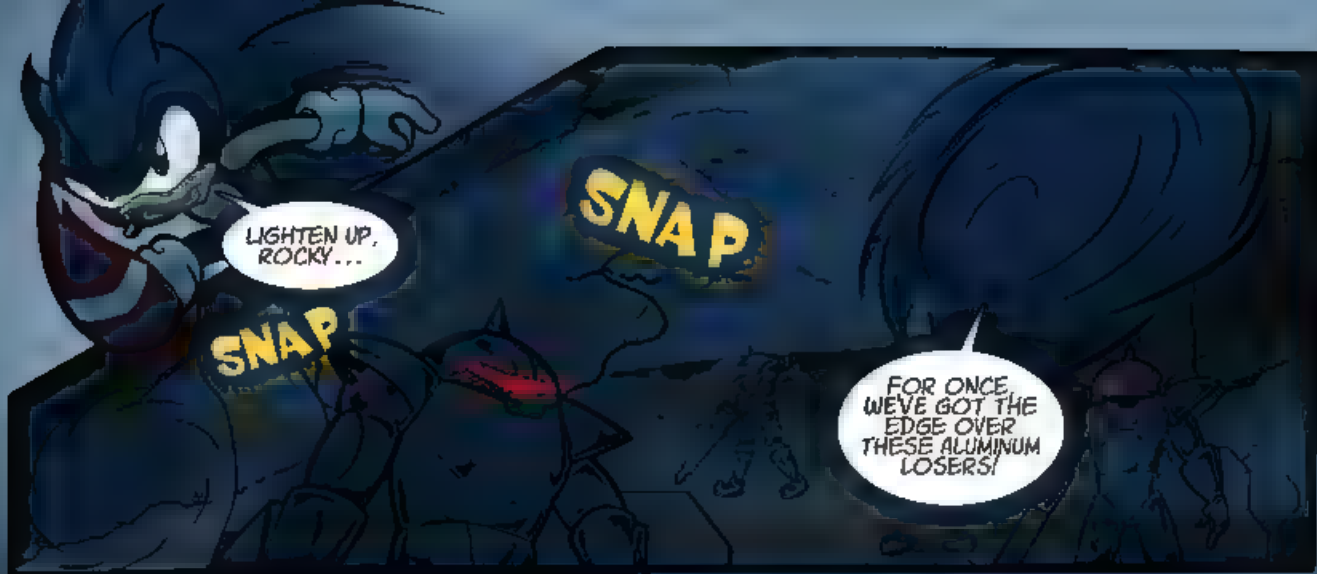
STRIKE
NOW!



YOU HEARD
THE GIRL!

LET'S ROUND
THESE VARMINTS
UP!

DON'T GET
CARRIED AWAY - WE
HAVEN'T WON
YET!





WE'VE
SECURED THE
ENEMY CARGO,
CAPTAIN
POLLO!



GOOD WORK,
HELENA! WE'VE GOT
THINGS JUST ABOUT
SEWN UP ON THE
GROUND




NICE WORK,
SAL! YOUR PLAN HIT
THESE BOLT-BRAINS
SO HARD THEY DIDN'T
EVEN SEE IT
COMING.




WE'RE NOT
DONE YET
SONIC I STILL
WANT TO KNOW
WHAT THESE
MACHINES
ARE




IMPRESSIVE
I'VE NEVER SEEN
THE LITTLE PESTS SO
WELL-ORGANIZED
BEFORE.
STILL.



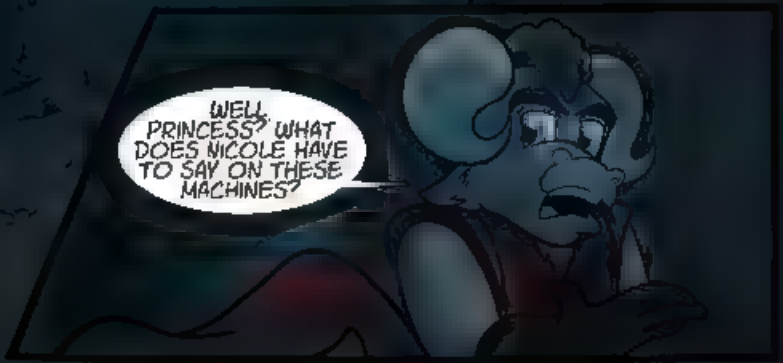
SINCE
THEY ALL
DECIDED
TO GATHER
TOGETHER
IN ONE PLACE,
PERHAPS A
DIFFERENT
TEST OF THE
RESONATRIX IS
IN ORDER



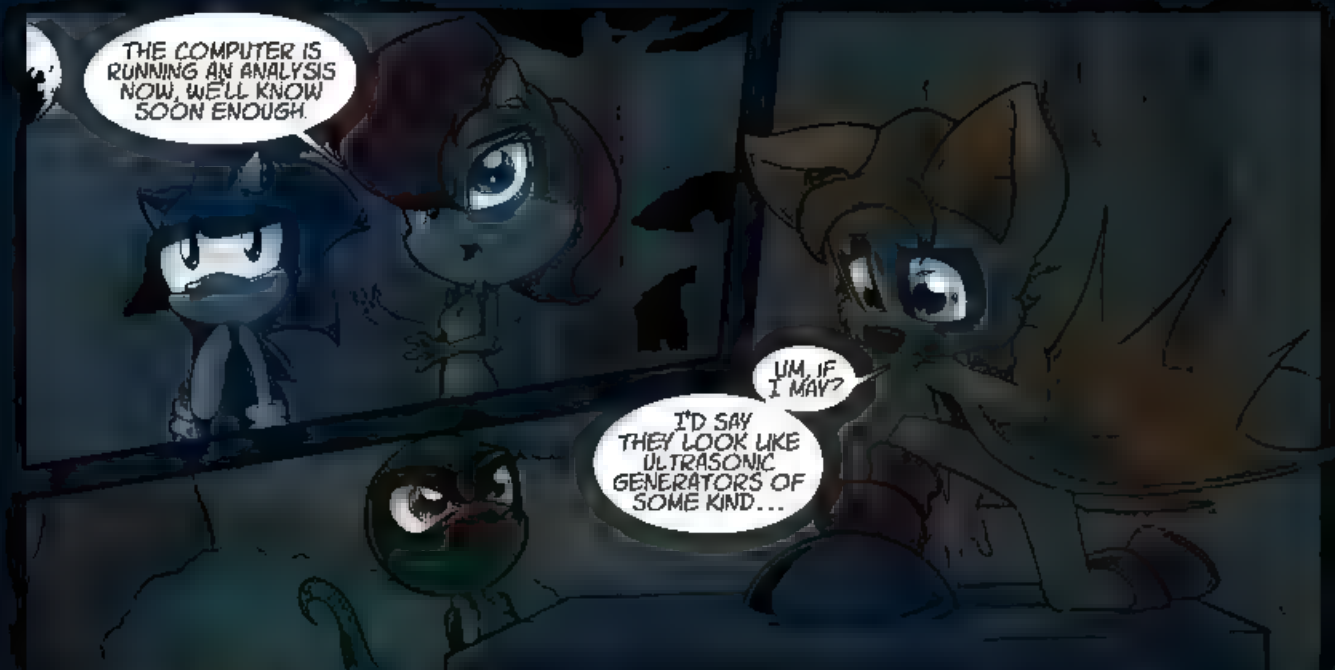
WHADDYA
THINK OF SAL'S
LEADERSHIP NOW,
HORNHEAD?



WHEN
OUR MISSION IS
ACTUALLY DONE, I
MIGHT BOTHER
TELLING YOU



WELL,
PRINCESS, WHAT
DOES NICOLE HAVE
TO SAY ON THESE
MACHINES?



THE COMPUTER IS
RUNNING AN ANALYSIS
NOW, WE'LL KNOW
SOON ENOUGH.



UM, IF
I MAY?

I'D SAY
THEY LOOK LIKE
ULTRASONIC
GENERATORS OF
SOME KIND...



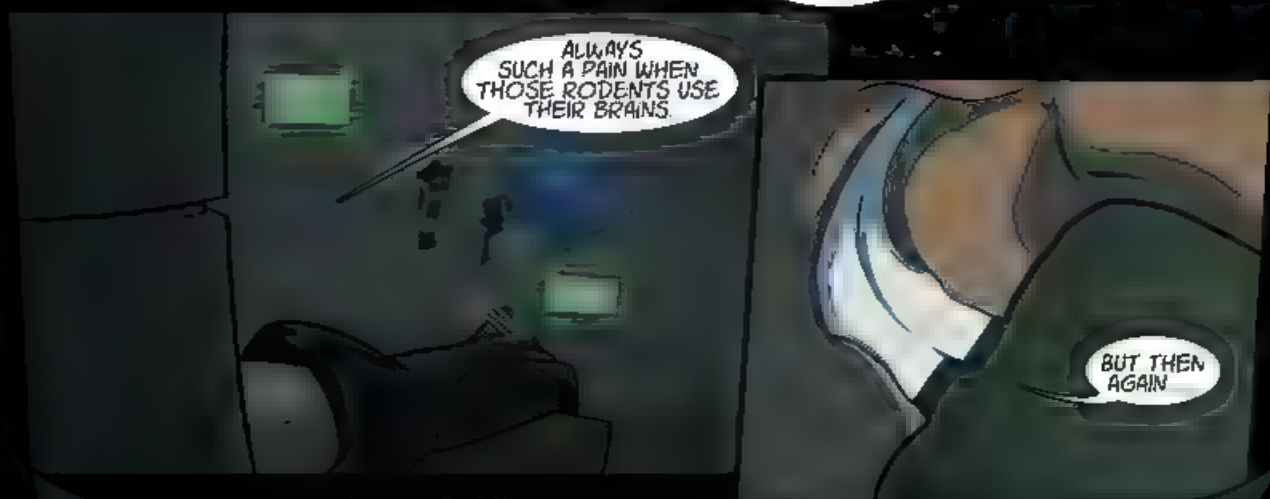
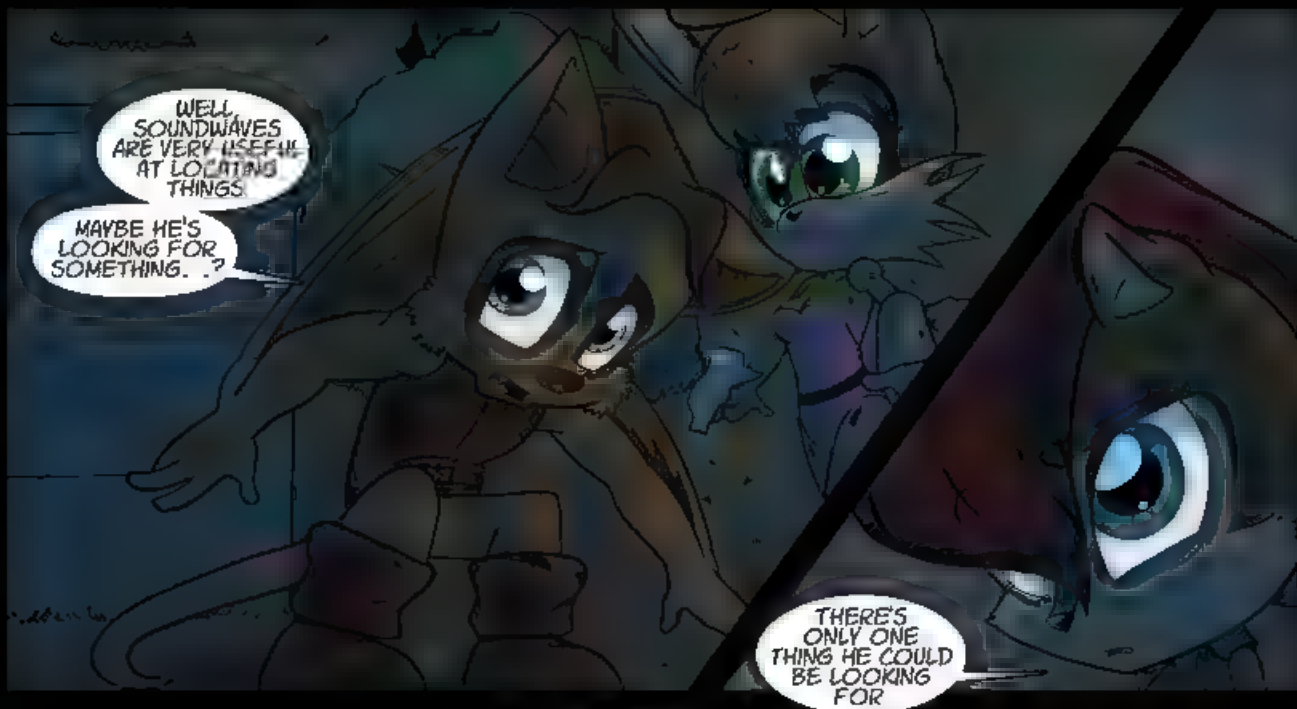
EH-HEH...

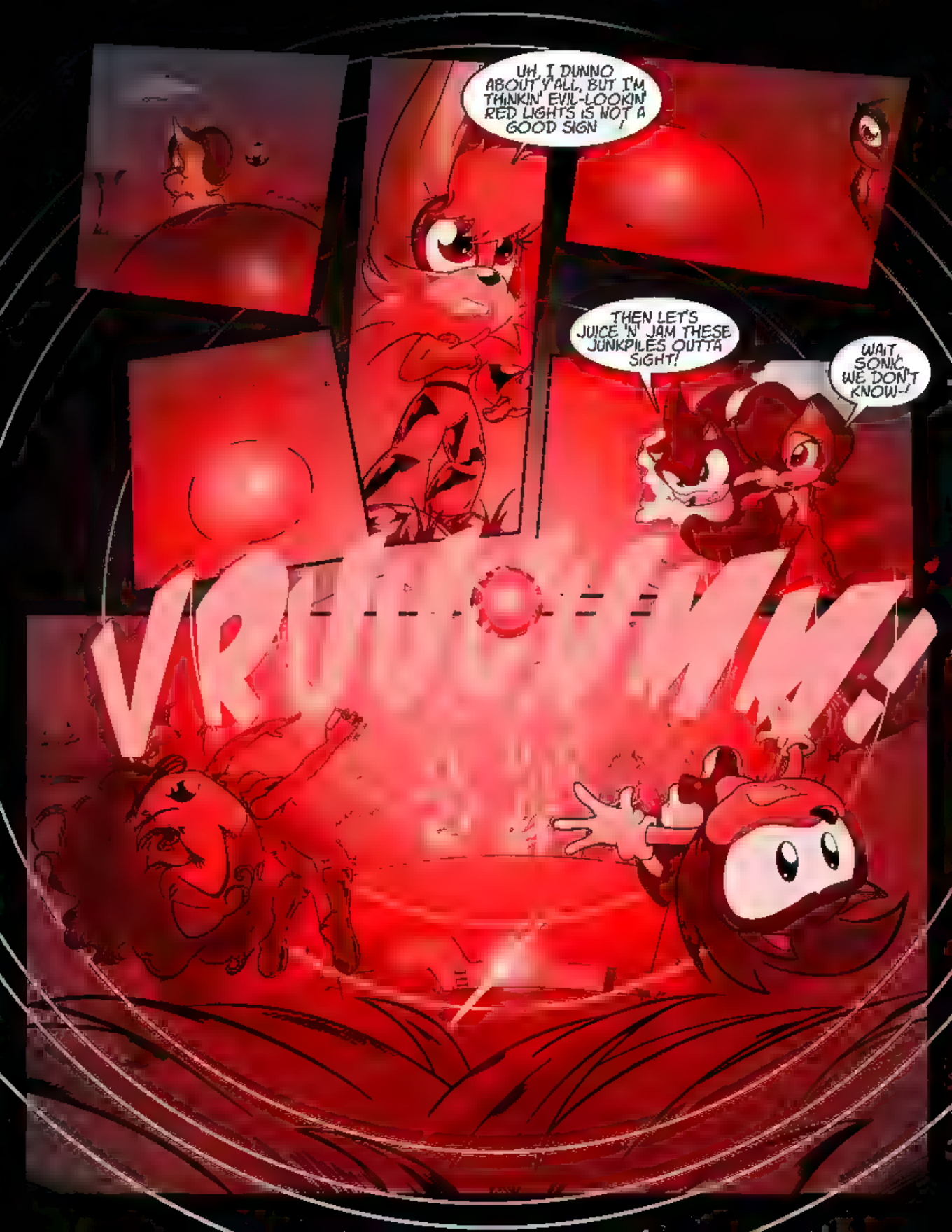
I AM A BAT. I
KNOW A BIT
ABOUT SOUND-
WAVES.



INTERESTING

...
WHY WOULD
SOMEONE BE
INTERESTED IN
USING SUCH
TECHNOLOGY
OUT HERE?



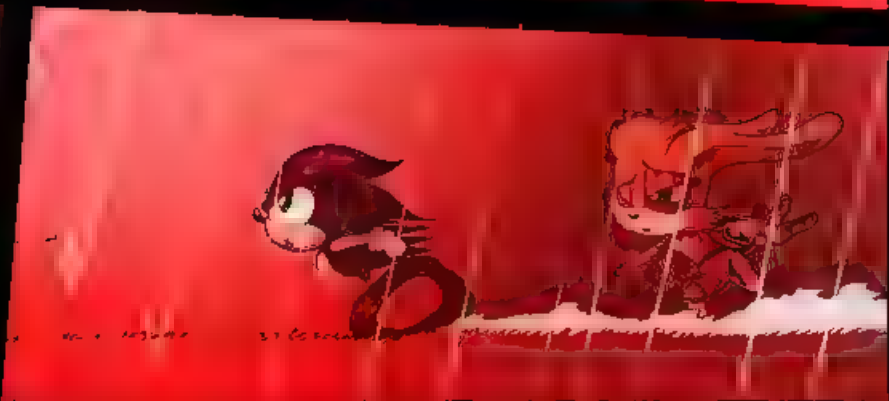
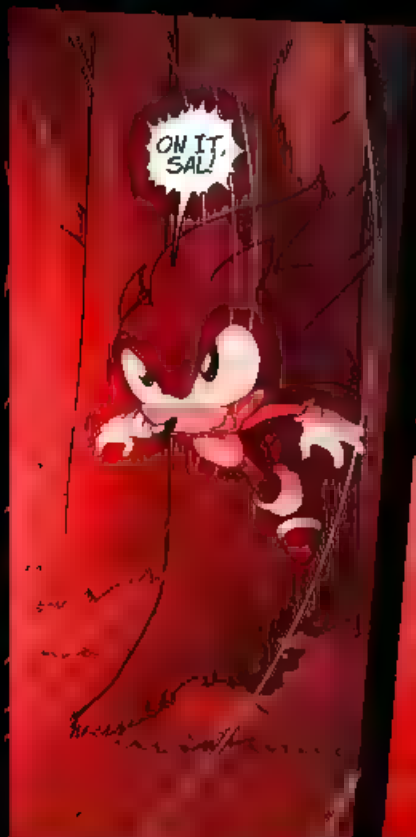


UH, I DUNNO
ABOUT Y'ALL, BUT I'M
THINKIN' EVIL-LOOKIN'
RED LIGHTS IS NOT A
GOOD SIGN


THEN LET'S
JUICE 'N' JAM THESE
JUNKPILES OUTTA
SIGHT!

WAIT
SONIC,
WE DON'T
KNOW-I


VRU...VW!








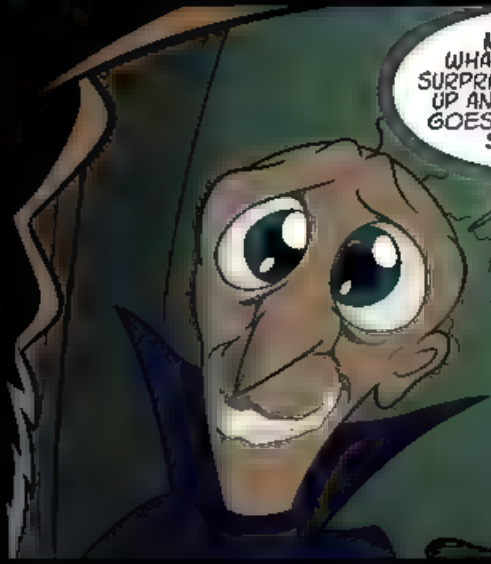
IF ONLY YOU
WERE HERE NOW, JULIAN.
I'D LOVE TO SEE
YOU SQUIRM ..



WHILE
YOU WATCH ME
SUCCEED WHERE
YOU ALWAYS FAILED
AND WITHOUT EVEN
TRYING!




ENJOYING
YOURSELF, I
SEE




N-NAUGUS!
WHAT A PLEASANT
SURPRISE TO SEE YOU
UP AND ABOUT HOW
GOES THE TRACKING
SPELL....?



...



WELL WELL.
TROUBLE WITH
YOUR JAUNTED
MAGIC, NAUGUS?



DO NOT SPEAK
SO FLIPPANTLY OF
FORCES YOU DO NOT
UNDERSTAND!

MY MAGIC
IS WORKING
FINE...

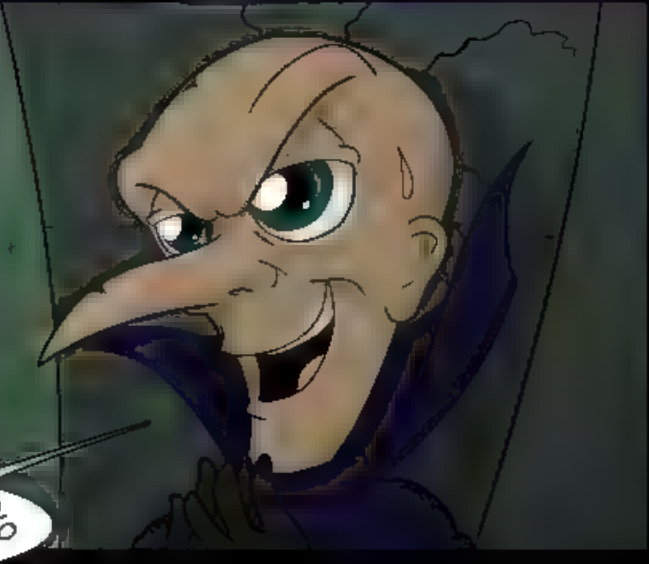


BUT FOR
SOME REASON THE
EMERALDS ELUDE
ME.

EVERY TIME
IT SEEMS I'M GETTING
CLOSE TO FINDING
ONE, THE PATH BECOMES
A DEAD END!



WELL DON'T WORRY
ABOUT YOUR INEFFICIENT
INCANTATIONS.



ONCE WE'RE RID
OF THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS, WE'LL
HAVE ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD TO
SEEK OUT THE EMERALDS

AND MY NEWEST SCA...ER, WEAPONS...SHOULD
TAKE CARE OF THAT ANY MINUTE NOW.

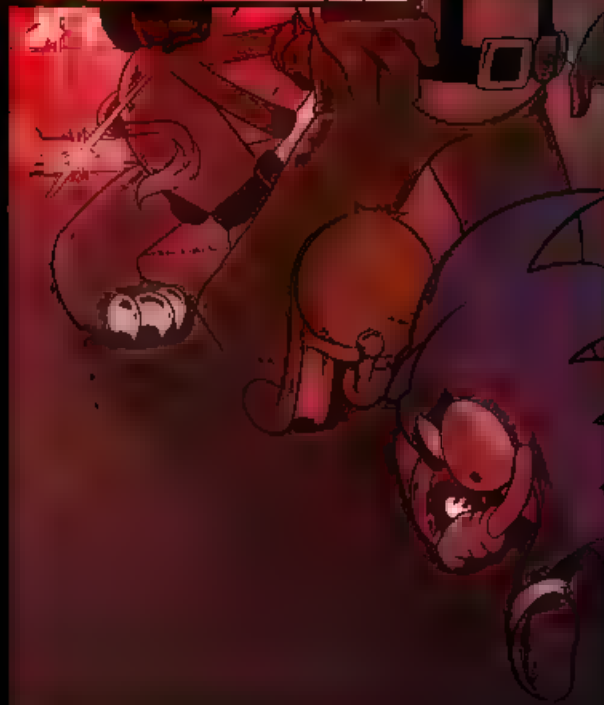


SAL!!!

DIRK...POLLO...
GET IN FRONT OF BUNNIE!
YOUR BULK WILL GIVE HER
AND SONIC A BIT OF
SHIELDING FROM THE
PRESSURE!

YOU SELFISH
LITTLE... USING US AS
SHIELDS FOR YOUR
SOLDIERS?!

LISTEN TO
THE LADY, DIRK. I THINK
SHE HAS A BIGGER PLAN
THAN THAT!



SONIC!
BURROW
UNDERGROUND
AND TAKE THESE
THINGS OUT!



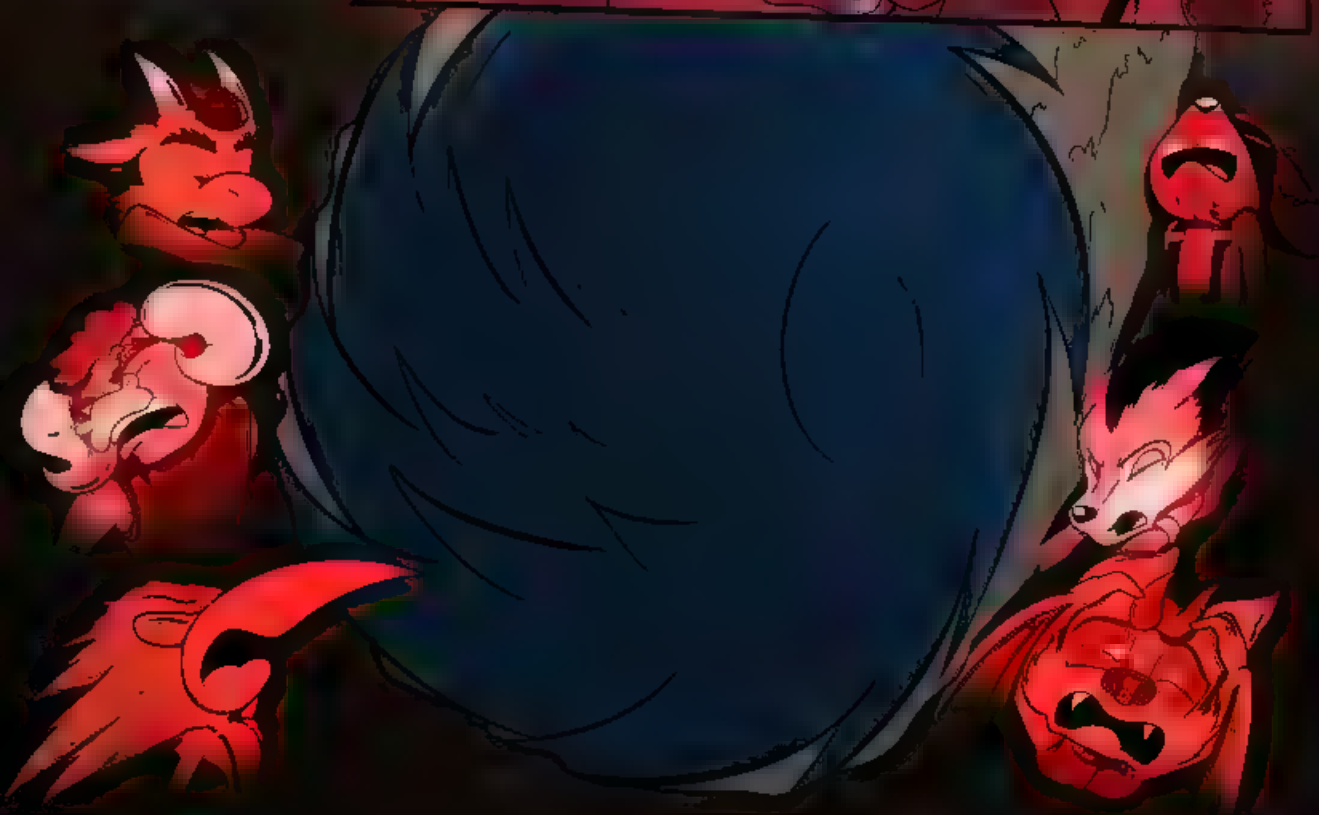
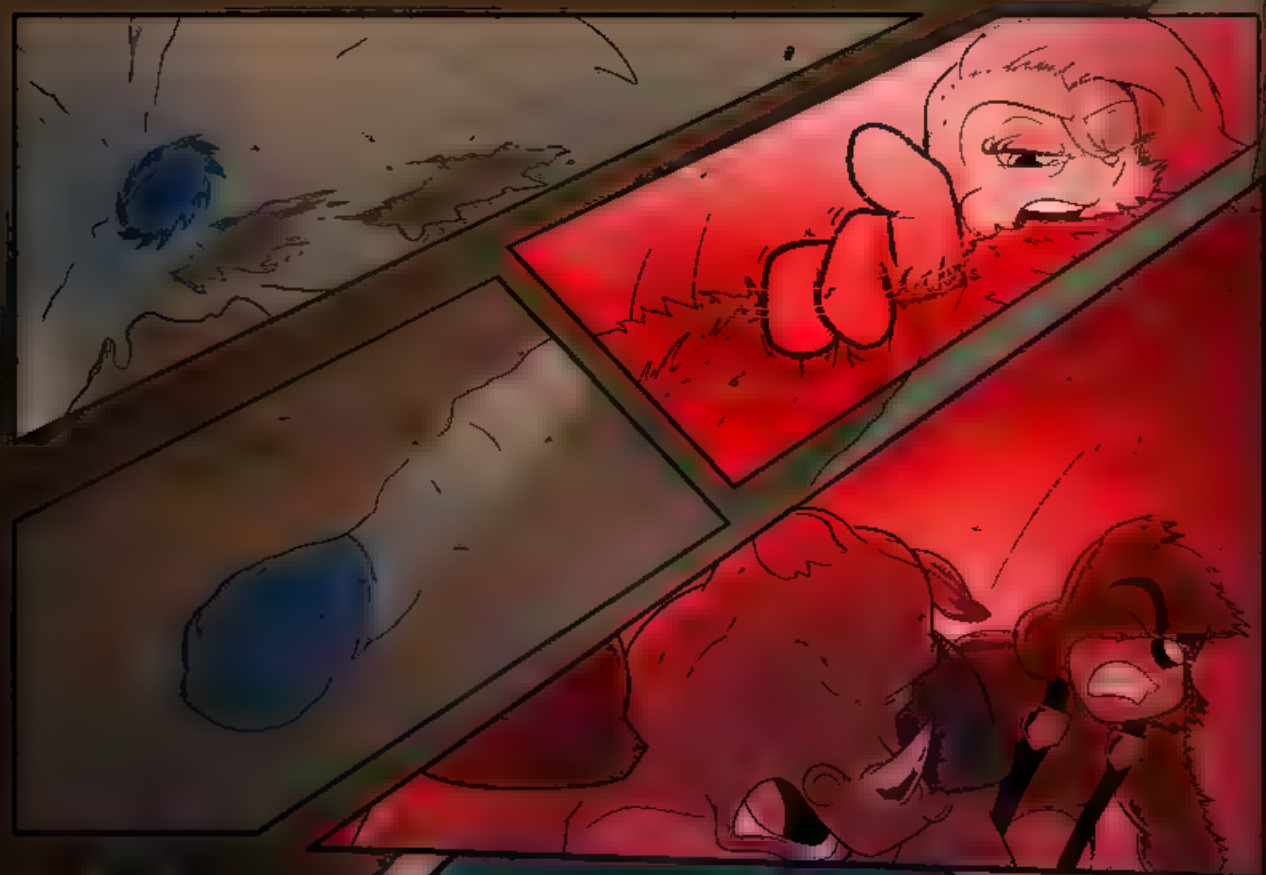
ONE DIRT
NAP SPECIAL
COMING UP!



CAN'T
TAKE MUCH
MORE!

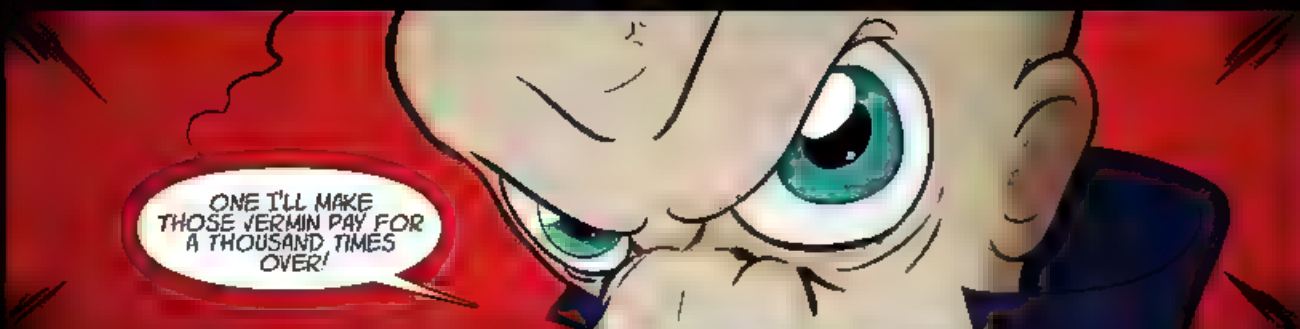


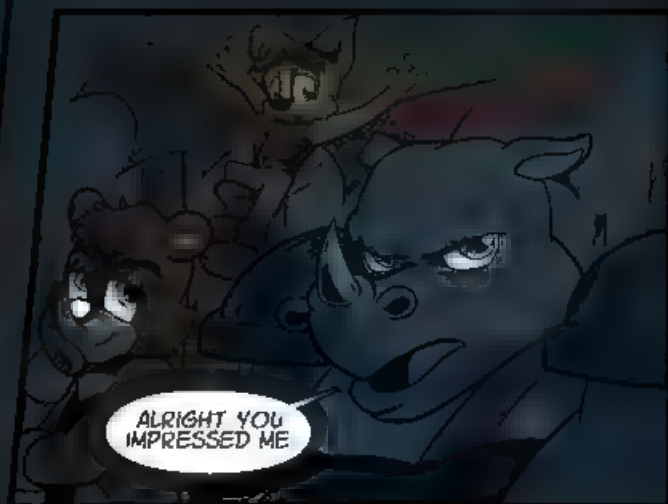
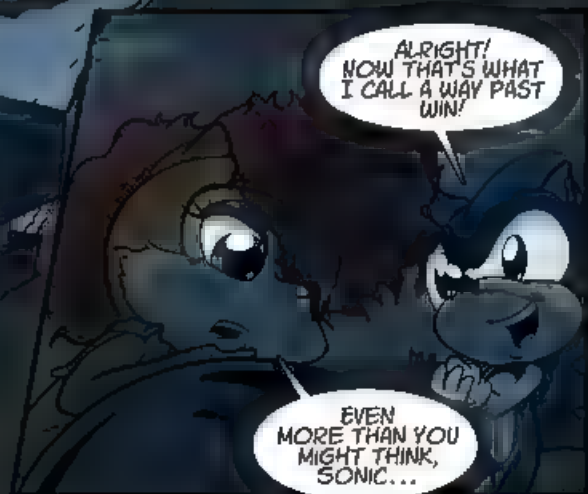
HANG
IN THERE,
EVERYONE!













... YOU SHOWED
ME HOW WELL YOU CAN
PULL ALL THESE DIFFERING
GROUPS TOGETHER

THEREFORE,
I'D LIKE TO MAKE A
PROPOSAL.

GAVIN!

Y-YES SIR?!

PRINCESS,
GAVIN IS MY MOST
LOYAL LIEUTENANT,
AND A TRUSTED
COMRADE.

I WOULD LIKE
FOR HIM TO TEMPORARILY
WORK WITH YOUR TEAM, SO
THAT HE CAN REPORT BACK
TO ME ON YOUR
PROGRESS

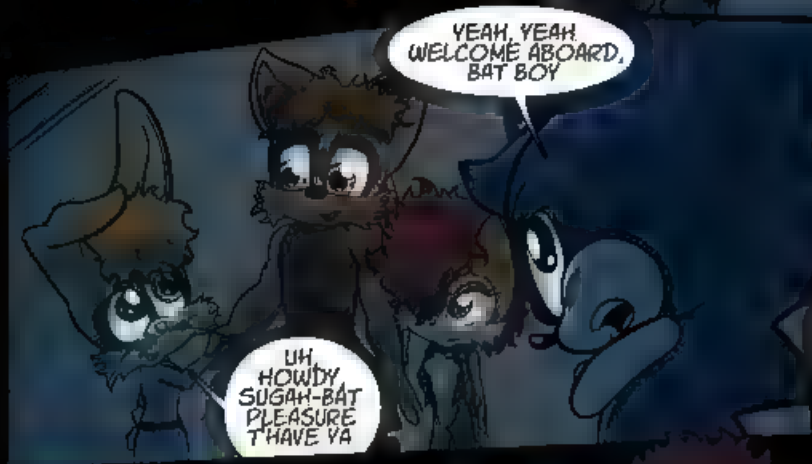
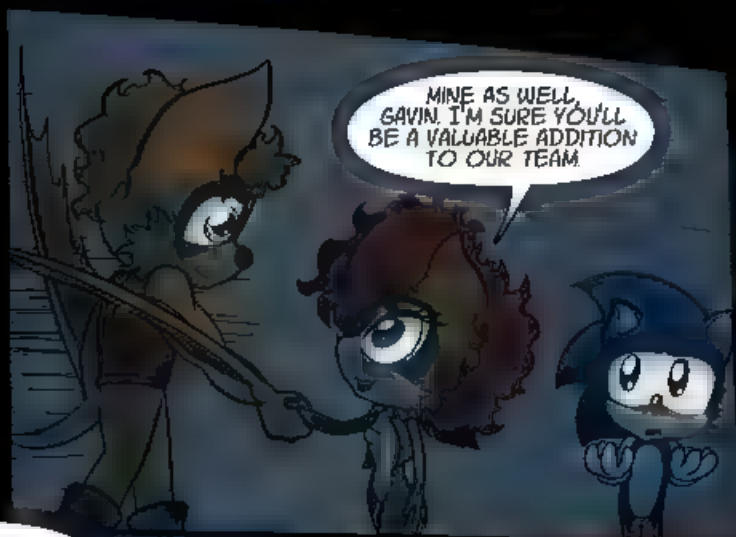
IS THIS
ACCEPTABLE TO
YOU?

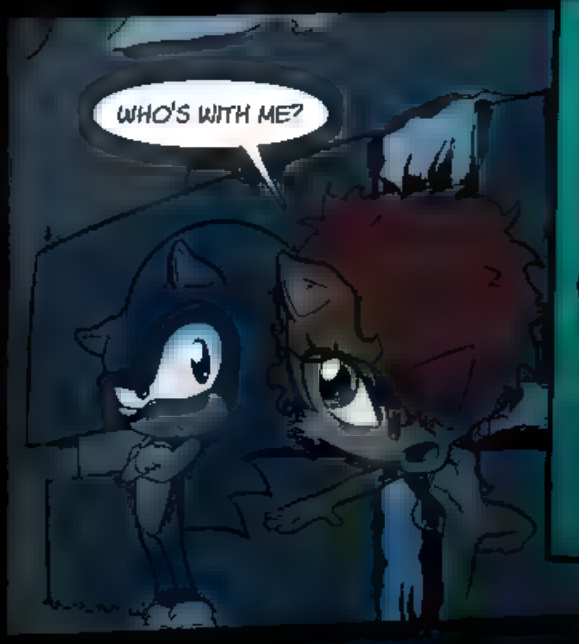
WHOA, WHAT?
YOU'RE STICKIN US WITH A
NEWBIE WHILE WE'VE GOT
BIGGER. .!

YES, GENERAL,
IT'S ACCEPTABLE

SAL, ARE
YOU SERIOUS?
YOU DON'T HAVE
TAKE ORDERS
FROM THIS
GUY!

IT'S CALLED
DIPLOMACY, SONIC.
TRY TO LEARN ABOUT
IT SOME TIME.

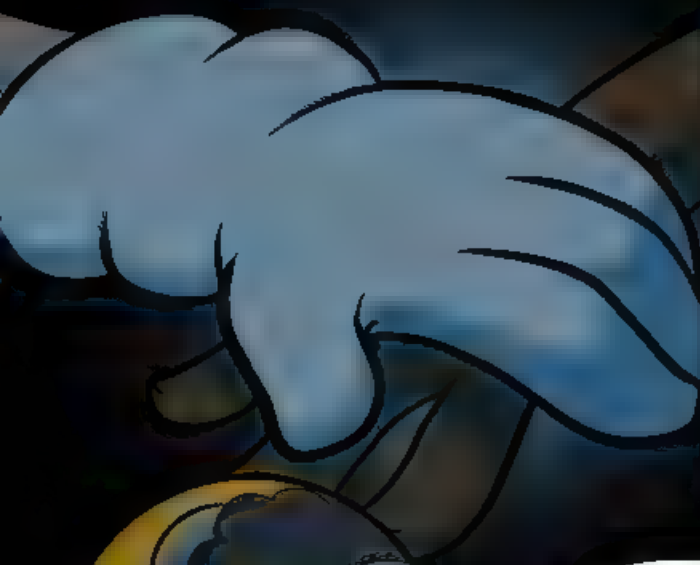




WHO'S WITH ME?



ME, LIKE ALWAYS.



WE'LL SHOOT Y'KNOW I'M WITH YA, SALLY-GIRL



AND I, PRINCESS.




DEFINITELY




OF COURSE, SALLY



I STILL
HAVE MY DOUBTS
WE SHOULD BE
CHASIN' THESE
EMERALDS, BUT...
I TRUST YOUR
JUDGMENT,
PRINCESS.



THEN LET'S
DO IT WE'LL BRING
THESE GLOBES BACK
TO KNOTHOLE




ROTOR AND SIR
CHARLES CAN BEGIN
TRYING TO WORK WITH
THEM IMMEDIATELY



IT'S DECIDED,
THEN



**FREEDOM,
FOREVER!**



HEY SCORE
ANOTHER ONE FOR
THE GOOD GUYS,
RIGHT SAL?

I WOULDN'T
PUT IT QUITE THAT
CHILDISHLY, SONIC,
BUT...

...BUT LET'S
PUT IT THAT WAY
ANYWAY!



GAVIN





YES,
SIR?

YOU WILL
WORK WITH THE ACORN
BRAT FOR NOW BUT I
WANT TO KNOW
EVERYTHING.

I WANT TO
FIND HER WEAKNESSES,
HER FLAWS, HER EVERY
FAULT-LINE... AND THOSE OF
HER TEAM MATES
TOO



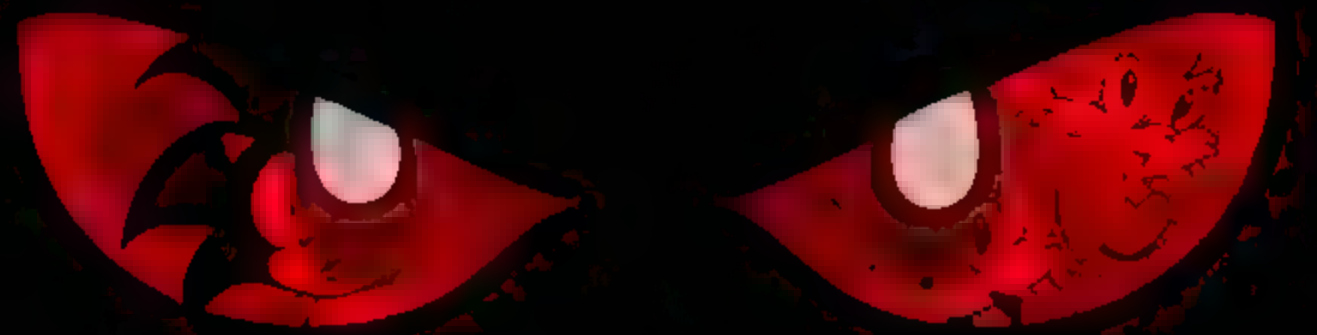
BECAUSE
ONE WAY OR THE
OTHER...



...I WANT HER
OUT OF THE
WAY

END





Head Writer and Story Developer: E. Mason
Colors and Character Design: Stephen Wood
Pencils, Inks, and Character Design: Tim "T" Campbell
Head Producer and Editor of Main Chapters: Paul Scott
Head Producer and Editor of Side Chapters: Paul Scott and John Roberts
Producer and Directors of Sea3on and Fans United for Sonic SatAM: Paul Scott and John Roberts
Download Organizer: Douglas G. Bigelow

Based on Characters and Concepts Developed by SEGA of Japan, SEGA of America, DiC Animation City, and the Cast and Crew of Sonic the Hedgehog (lovingly known as Sonic SatAM)

In Loving Memory of Ben Hurst.

If you wish to advertise Sea3on on your website or blog please use one of our banners that you can find here: <http://www.sonicsatam.com/linking.php>
Remember, linking to us helps give Sea3on popularity and more fans. The more fans, the better we get. Thank you.

For further talk on Sea3on, please join the FUS forums
<http://sonicsatam.com/forums/>

Ya gotta admit one thing Sal. I am one Major Hedgehog Nunk.










--SOMEHOW.

YOU KEPT A GOOD EAR
OUT FOR HOVERCRAFTS, GAVIN,
HELPED US MAKE IT THROUGH
THE SKIES NICE 'N' CLEAN.



AS A FELLOW
BIG-EARS, I'M
IMPRESSED.



AH, YES,
WELL...UM...

I SUPPOSE YOU
JUST HAVE TO USE WHAT
YOU'VE GOT, RIGHT...?



I HEAR THAT.

DOWN



NOW C'MON,
SUGAH-BAT...



SEA 3 ON

"Spare Parts"

WRITTEN BY ERIC MASON
PENCILS & INKS BY TIM CAMPBELL
COLORS & LETTERING BY LAURA ADAMS
EDITED BY PAUL SCOTT
CHARACTERS OWNED BY DIC AND SEGA

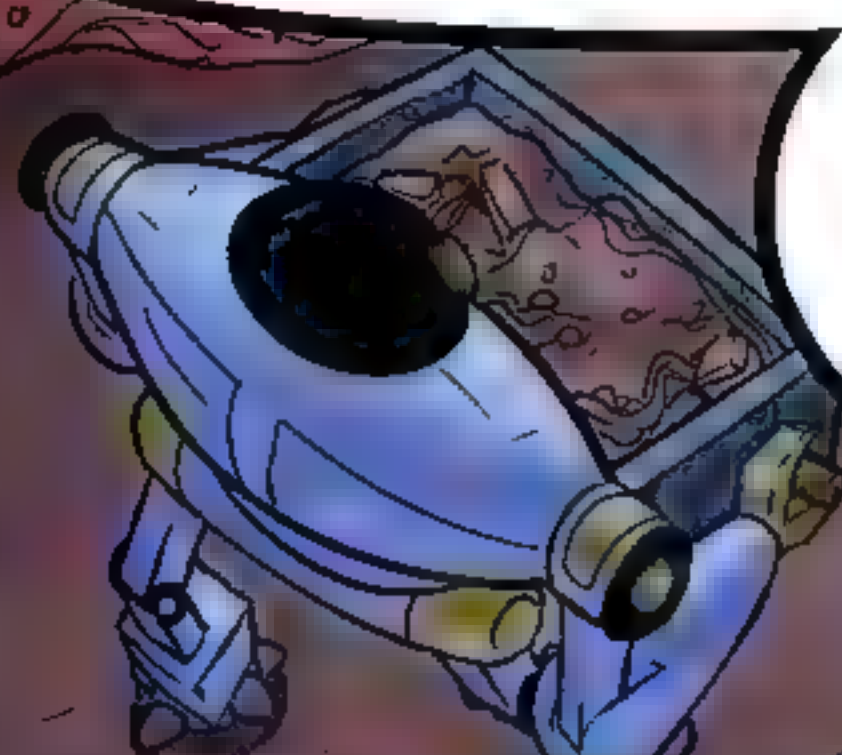
...WE'VE GOT
WORK T'DO.

I, UH, STILL HAVE
TO WONDER IF THIS IS
AN APPROPRIATE FIRST
MISSION FOR ME AS PART
OF YOUR TEAM.

AW C'MON NOW,
SUGAH-BAT.

YOU MAY BE NEW
T'OUR TEAM BUT YOU
AIN'T NO NOVICE AS A
FREEDOM FIGHTER.

'SIDES, THIS OL' SCRAP
FACTORY'S BEEN IN THE
DARK FOR A LONG TIME.
A BAT LIKE YOU SHOULD
MAKE SEARCHIN' THROUGH IT
A WHOLE LOT EASIER.



AND YOU...ER...THE PRINCESS, I MEAN...

SHE THINKS THIS IS THE BEST PLACE TO GET, UH, WHAT WE WANT?

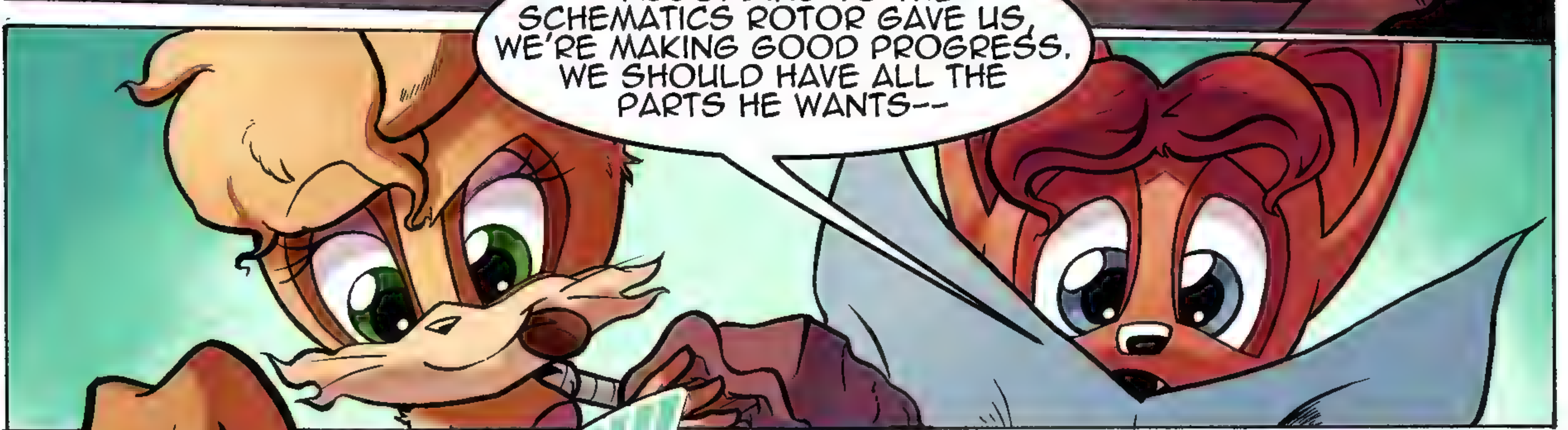
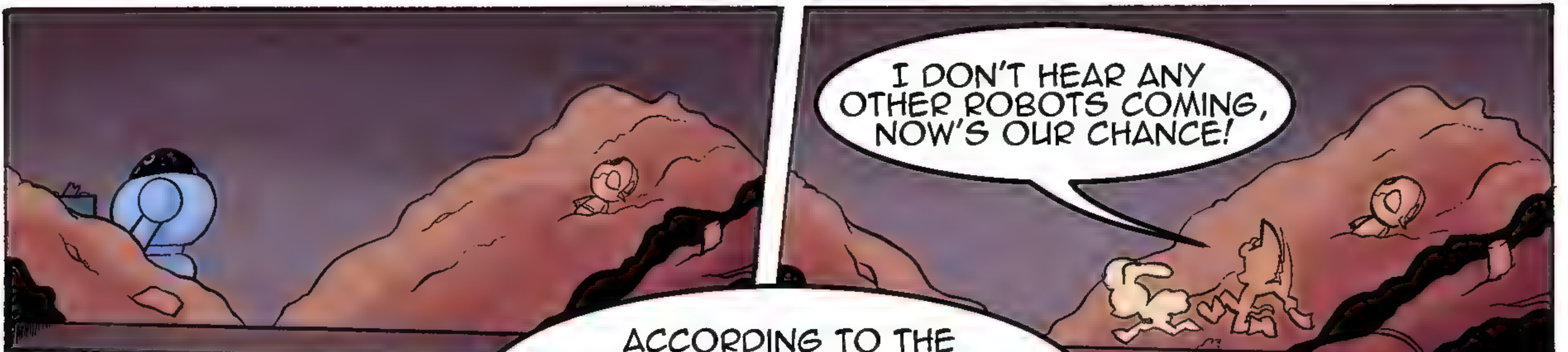
SALLY-GIRL SAYS IF WE RAID THE PARTS WE WANT FROM HERE, IT'S LESS LIKELY T'MAKE SNIVELY SUSPICIOUS.

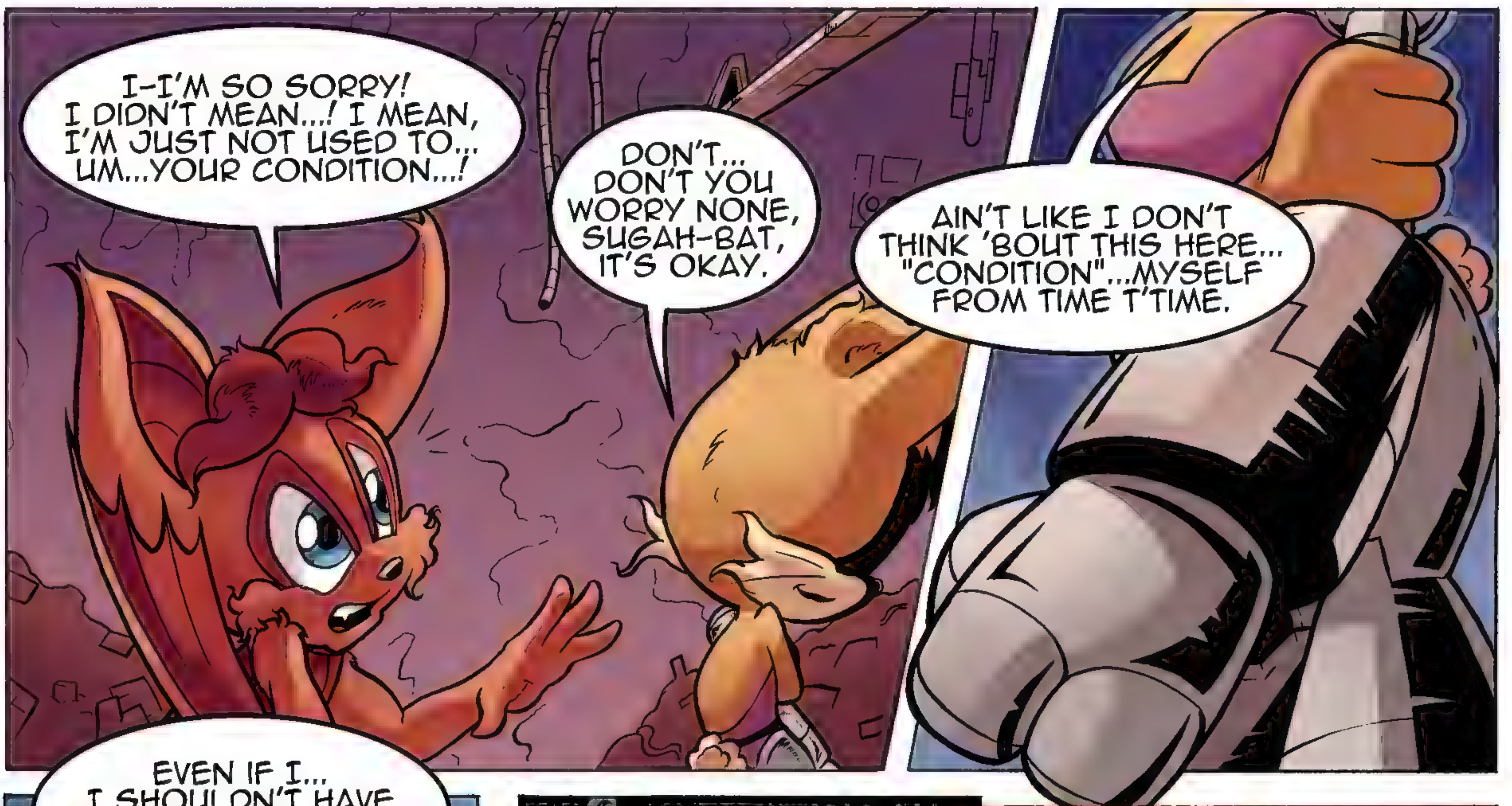
REMEMBER, WE DON'T WANT HIM KNOWIN' WE'RE GONNA BE FIXIN' UP HIS FANCY RESONATRIX SO WE CAN USE IT.

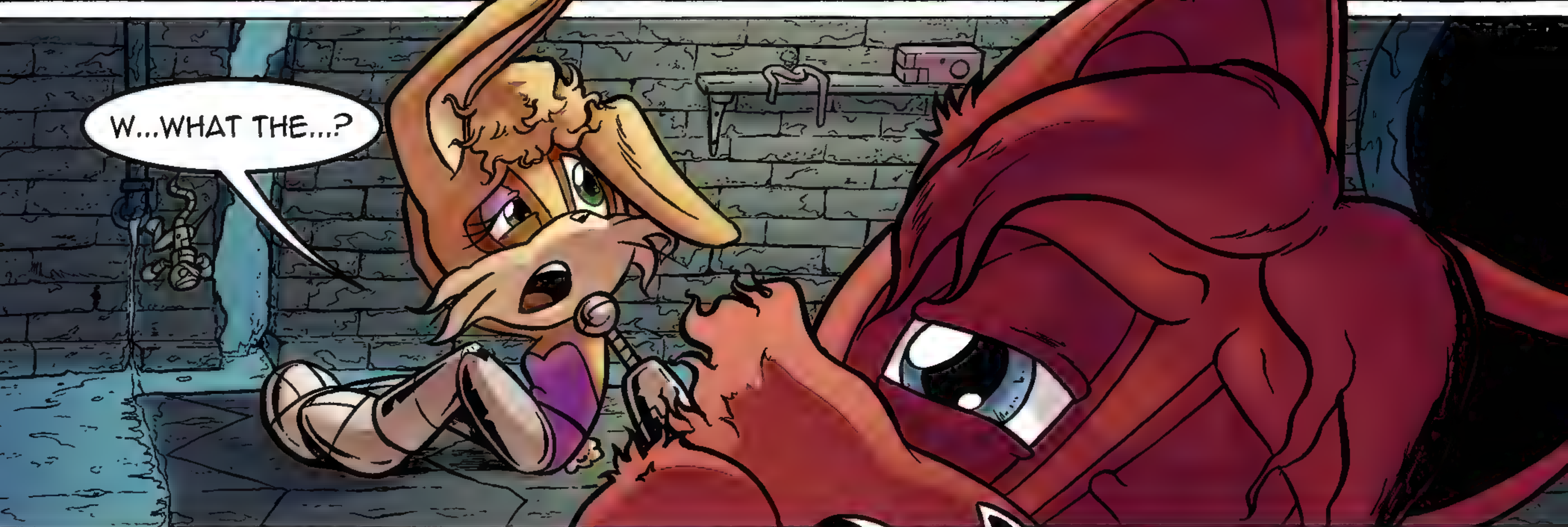
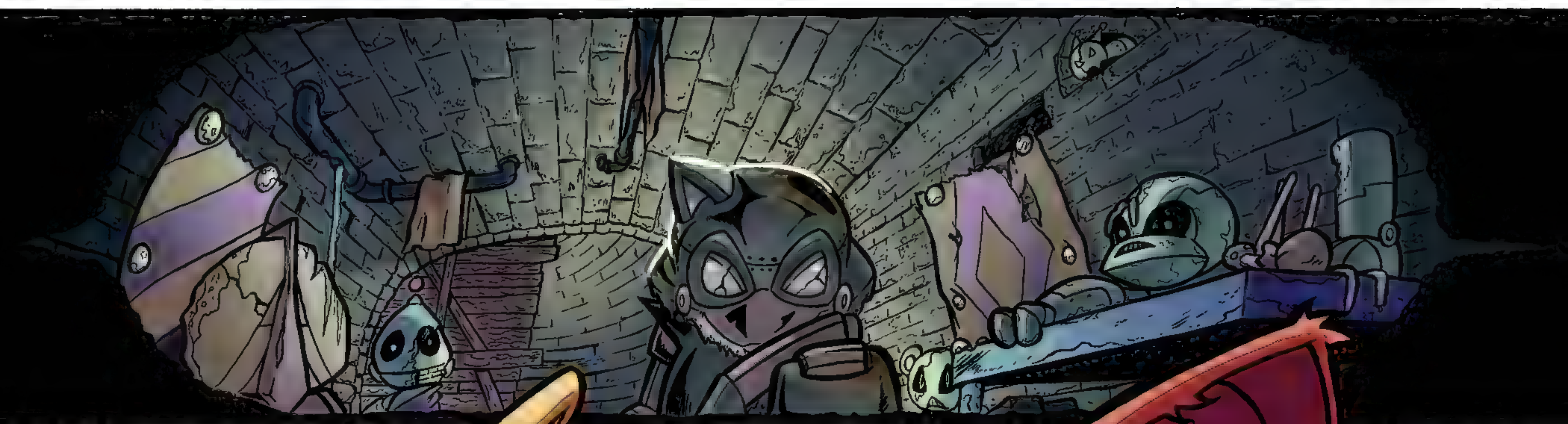
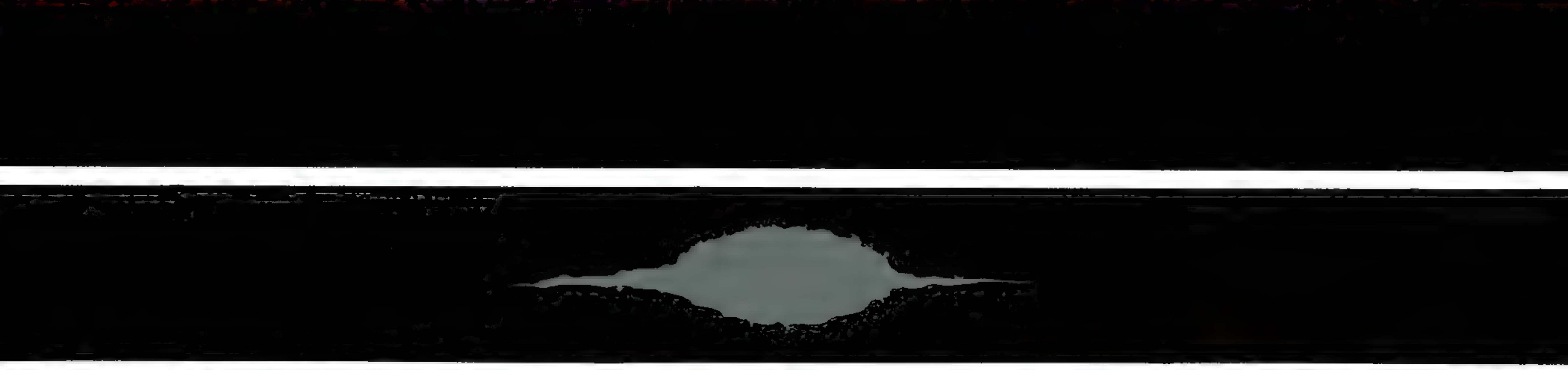
'SIDES, THIS SCRAP HEAP'S GOT A LOT LESS SECURITY THAN ANY O' ROBOTROPOLIS' FACTORIES.

READY T'DO IT TO IT, SUGAH-BAT?

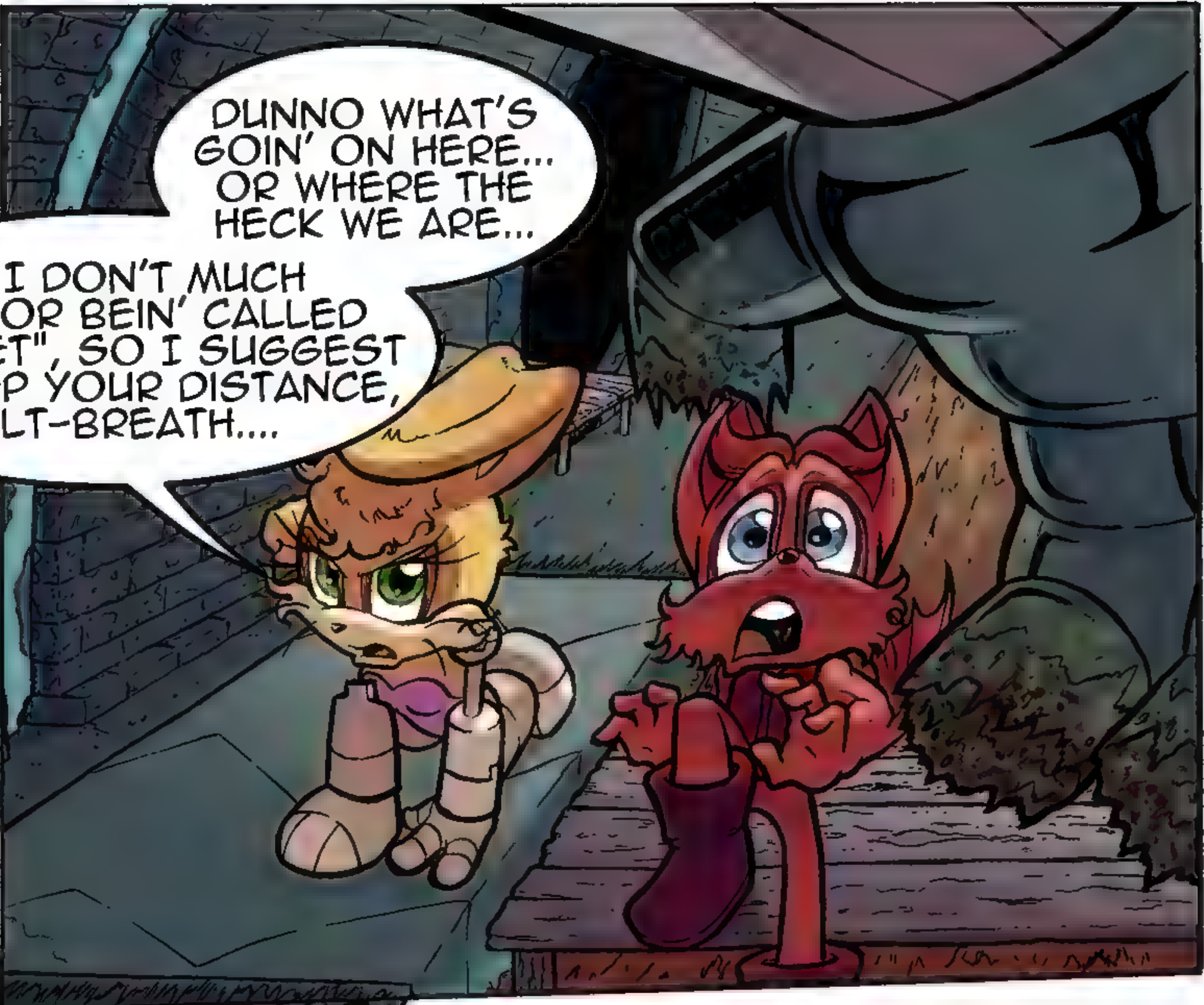
AS I'LL EVER BE, MS. RABBOT.







VOCALIZATION
CONFIRMED. ANALYSIS
INDICATES VITALS
STABLE. TARGETS AWAKE.
REPEAT: TARGETS AWAKE.



DUNNO WHAT'S
GOIN' ON HERE...
OR WHERE THE
HECK WE ARE...

BUT I DON'T MUCH
CARE FOR BEIN' CALLED
A "TARGET", SO I SUGGEST
YOU KEEP YOUR DISTANCE,
BOLT-BREATH...



TARGET'S VOCAL
INFLECTION INDICATES
HOSTILITY. PREPARING
TO ENGAGE.

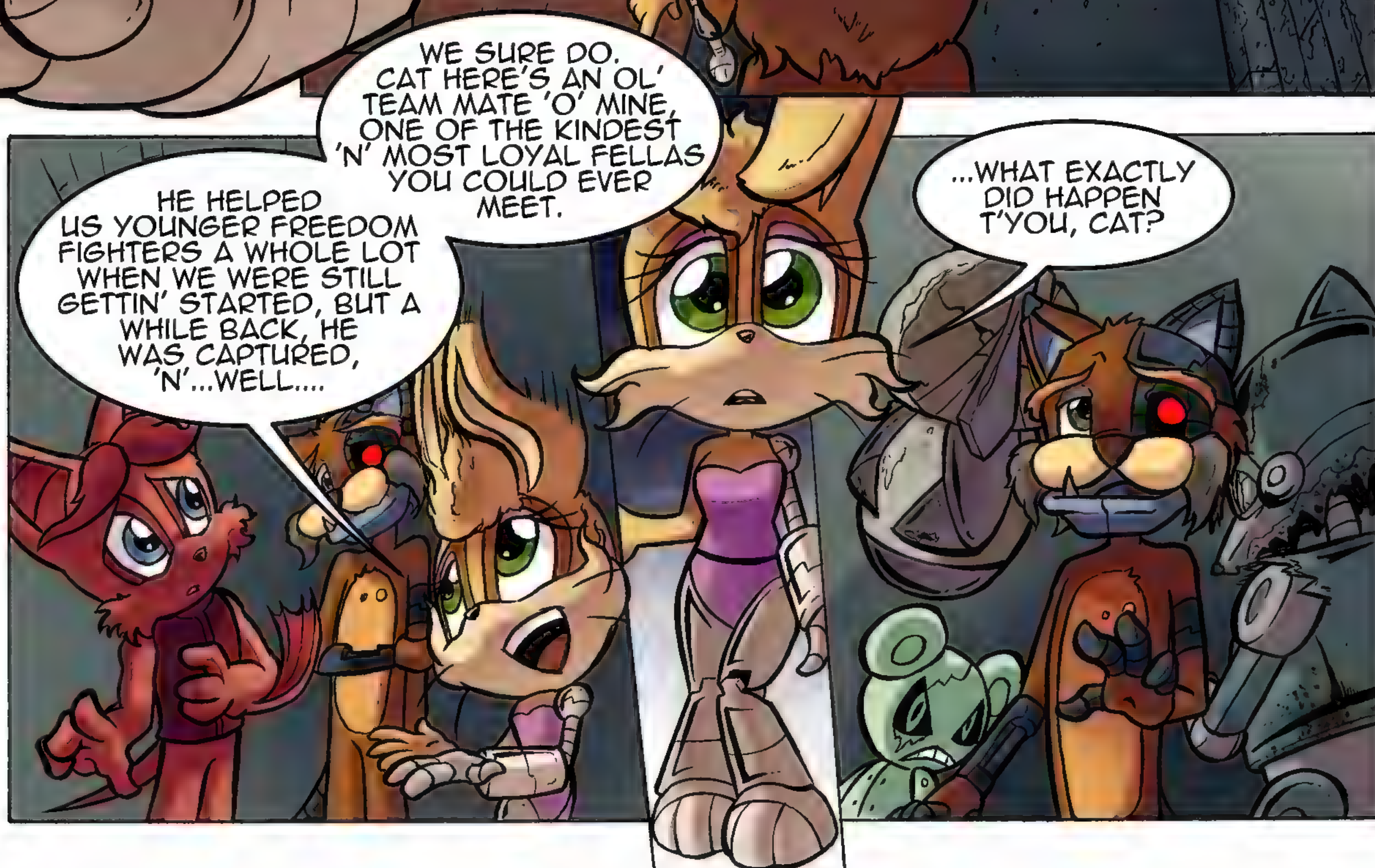
NOW NOW,
RUSTBUCKET, NO
NEED TO GET TESTY
WITH THE LADY.
AFTER ALL...



...WE'RE ALL
FRIENDS HERE.



...OH MY
STARS...!





...AND WHAT'S WITH ALL YOUR NEW FRIENDS...?



AH, THAT'S QUITE THE STORY, BUNNIE. 'THOUGH I THINK RUSTBUCKET HERE MIGHT DISAGREE WITH YOUR USE 'O' THE WORD "FRIEND".

AFFIRMATIVE. "CO-UNITS" MORE ACCURATE TERM.

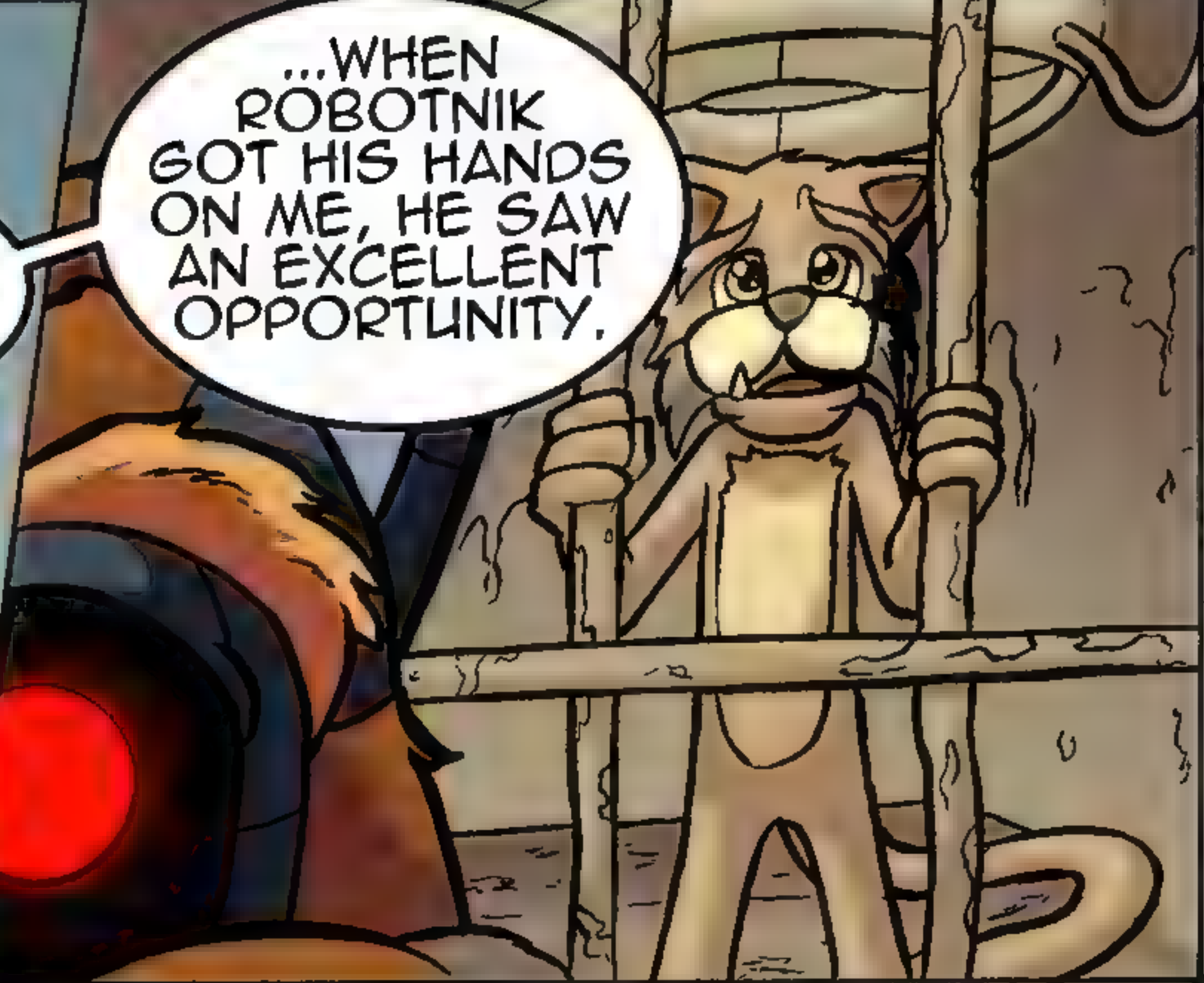


YEAH, WELL, IN ANY CASE...THESE "CO-UNITS" 'N' I, WE'RE ALL BIRDS OF A FEATHER DOWN HERE. FAILED EXPERIMENTS OF ROBOTNIK'S HE THREW AWAY WITHOUT GIVING US ANOTHER THOUGHT.

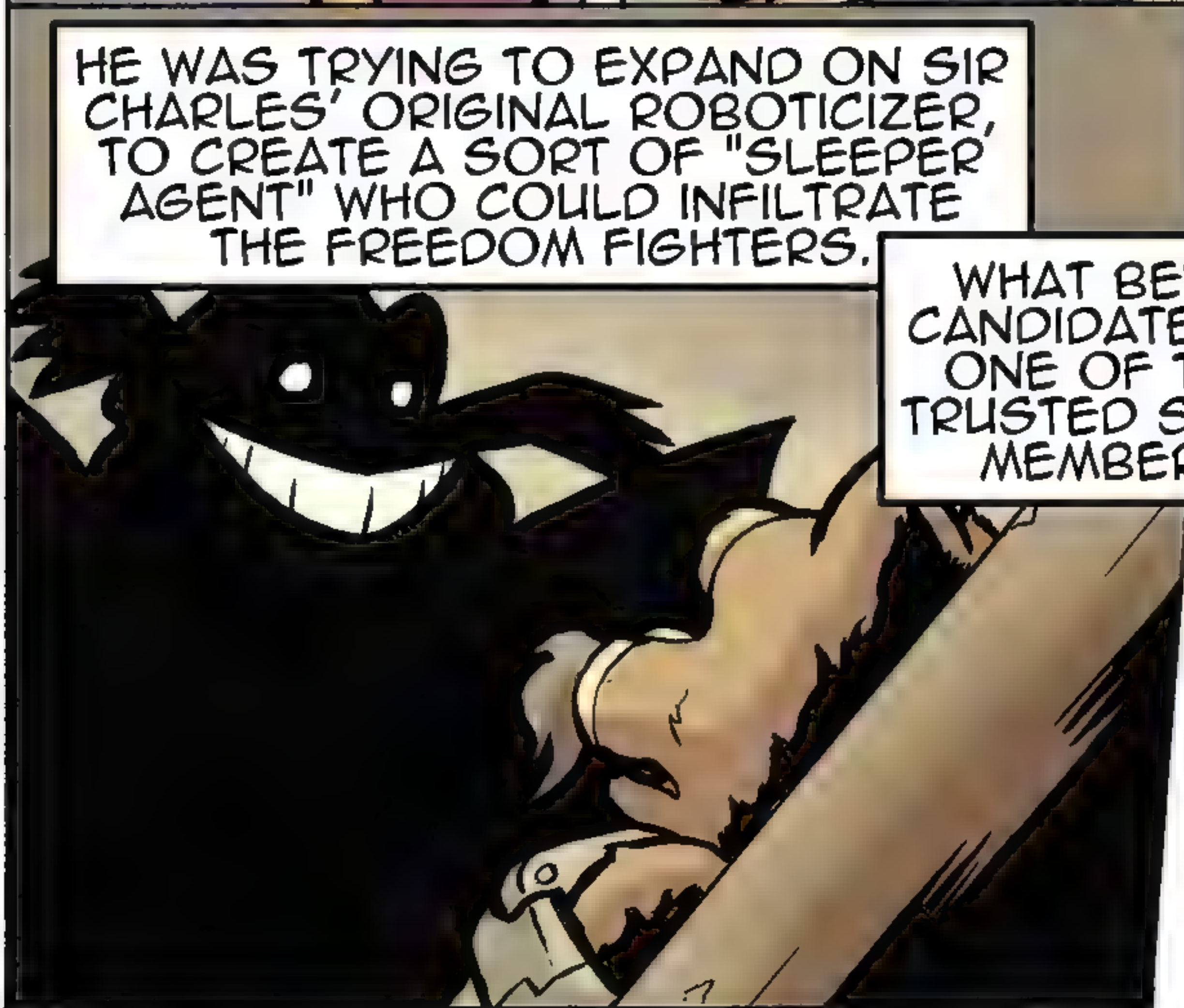


"EXPERIMENTS"...? Y'MEAN...?

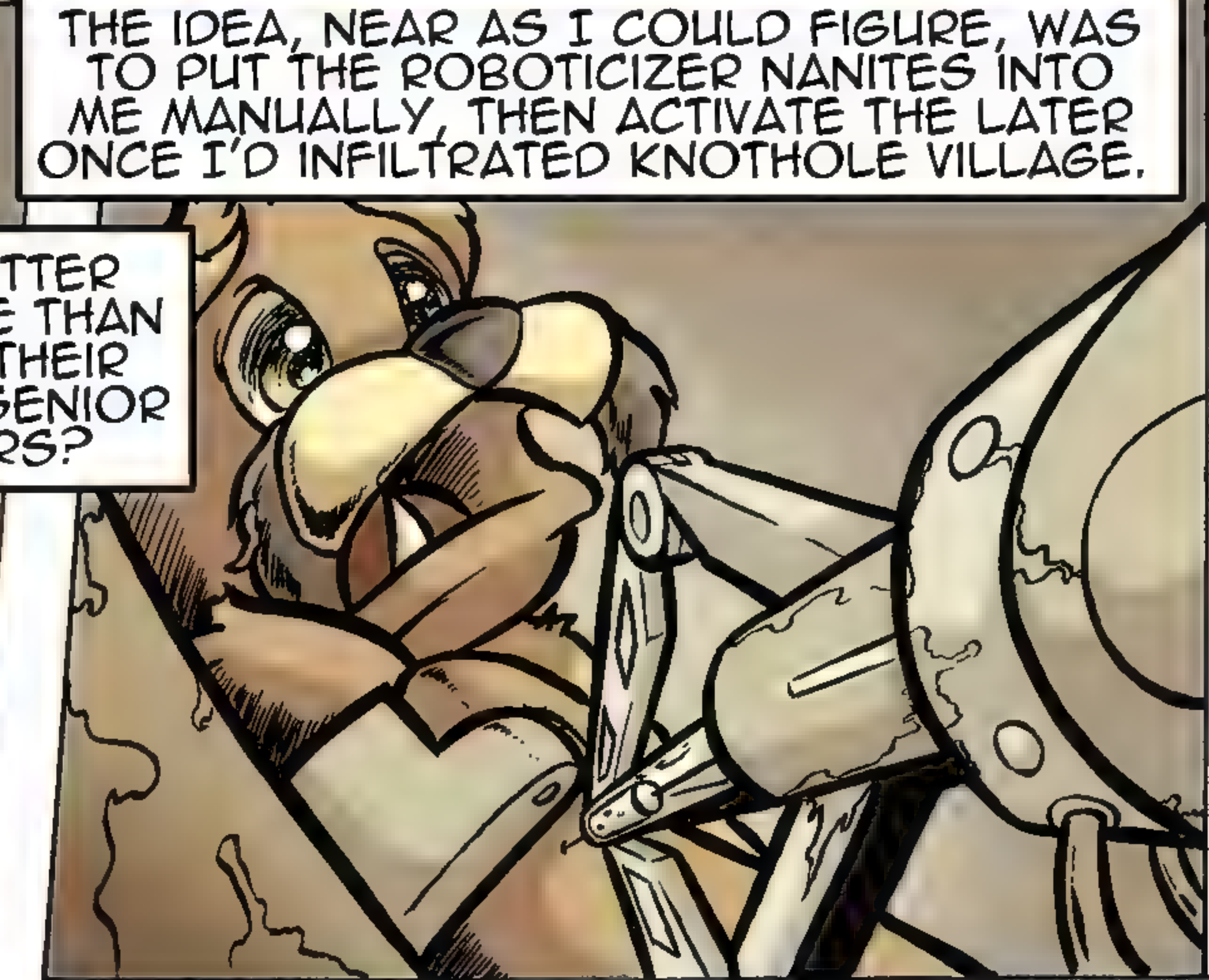
YUP...THAT GOES FOR ME TOO. Y'SEE...



...WHEN ROBOTNIK GOT HIS HANDS ON ME, HE SAW AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.



HE WAS TRYING TO EXPAND ON SIR CHARLES' ORIGINAL ROBOTICIZER, TO CREATE A SORT OF "SLEEPER AGENT" WHO COULD INFILTRATE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS.



THE IDEA, NEAR AS I COULD FIGURE, WAS TO PUT THE ROBOTICIZER NANITES INTO ME MANUALLY, THEN ACTIVATE THE LATER ONCE I'D INFILTRATED KNOTHOLE VILLAGE.

WHAT BETTER CANDIDATE THAN ONE OF THEIR TRUSTED SENIOR MEMBERS?

ONLY PROBLEM WAS, HE COULDN'T
GET THE NANITES T'Stabilize...
ALL THE INJECTION DID WAS MESS
UP THE TRANSFORMATION.



HE THOUGHT THE
PROCESS KILLED ME...FOR A
WHILE THERE, I DID TOO. BUT INSTEAD,
I FOUND MYSELF ALIVE... 'N' DOWN
HERE. WITH MY "CO-UNITS."



...MY STARS
...CAT, I....

AWW,
NO WORRIES,
BUNNIE M'DEAR.
I'VE MANAGED
T'DO ALRIGHT FOR
MYSELF DOWN
HERE.



"NO WORRIES" INACCURATE.
CONCERNS STILL EXIST
ON MULTIPLE SUBJECTS,
INCLUDING CURRENT TARGETS.

I'M THINKING
YOU CAN GUESS
FOR YOURSELF WHY
RUSTBUCKET GOT
FLUSHED DOWN
HERE.





...WHERE IS "HERE"?

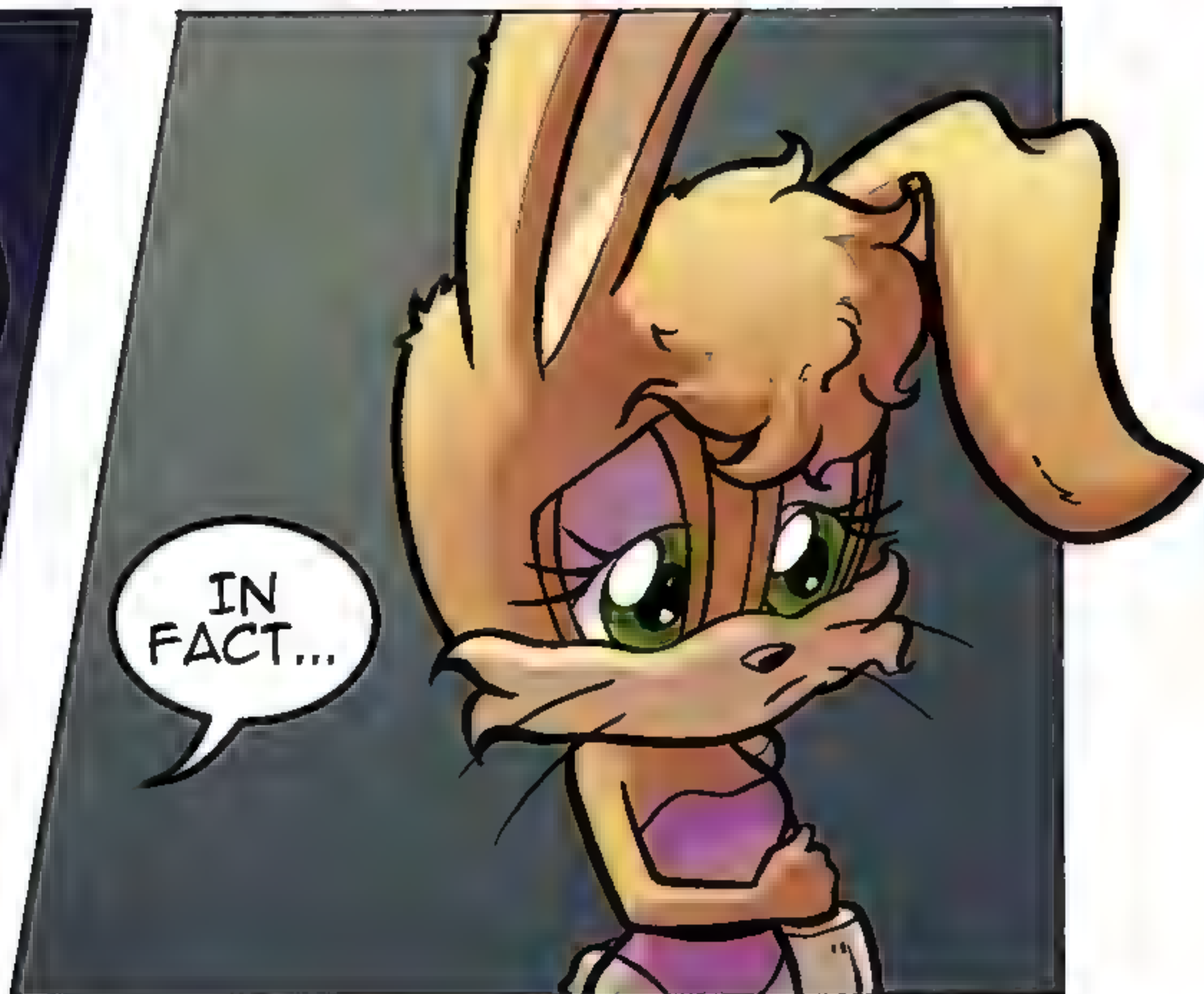
PART OF THE ROBOTROPOLIS SEWER SYSTEM. ME 'N' THE OTHERS FOUND OUR WAY HERE A WHILE BACK 'N' SET UP SHOP.

DIDN'T TAKE US LONG T'LEARN IT WAS CONNECTED TO THE OLD SCRAP METAL DEPOT, AND WE'VE BEEN NIPPING WHAT WE NEED FROM THERE EVER SINCE.



WHAT EXACTLY IS IT YOU NEED?

OH, JUST A FEW THINGS TO KEEP OUR PARTS IN WORKING ORDER, MOSTLY. THOUGH...THERE IS ONE LITTLE "SIDE-PROJECT" I'VE BEEN WORKING ON.



IN FACT...



...THAT'S WHY I HAD RUSTBUCKET BRING YOU DOWN HERE.

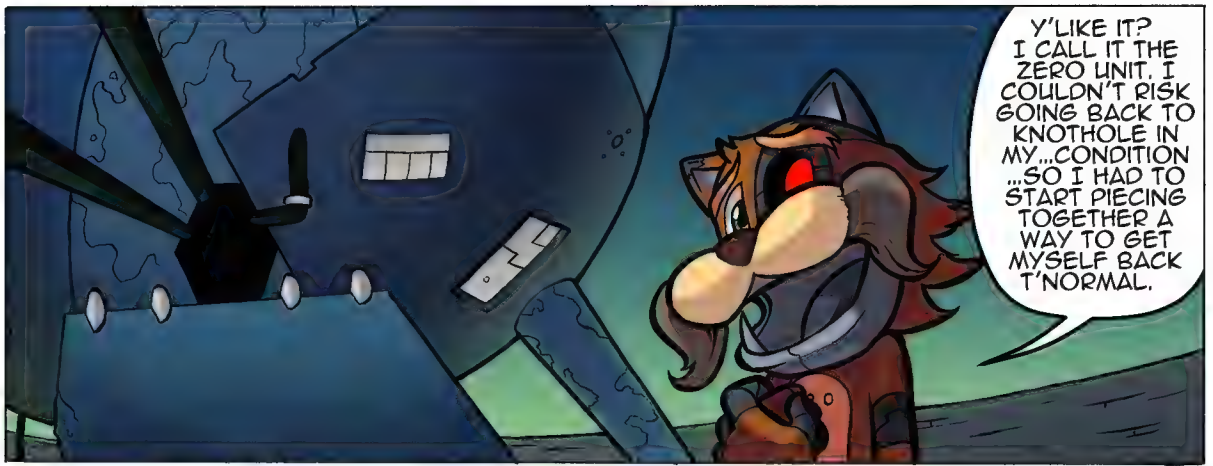
YOU MEAN...
YOU SENT
THIS THING
AFTER US?

WELL I COULDN'T
EXACTLY *INVITE* YOU TWO
DOWN HERE, NOW COULD I?
DIDN'T WANT TO RISK ROBOTNIK
FINDING OUT I WAS STILL
ALIVE, EITHER.

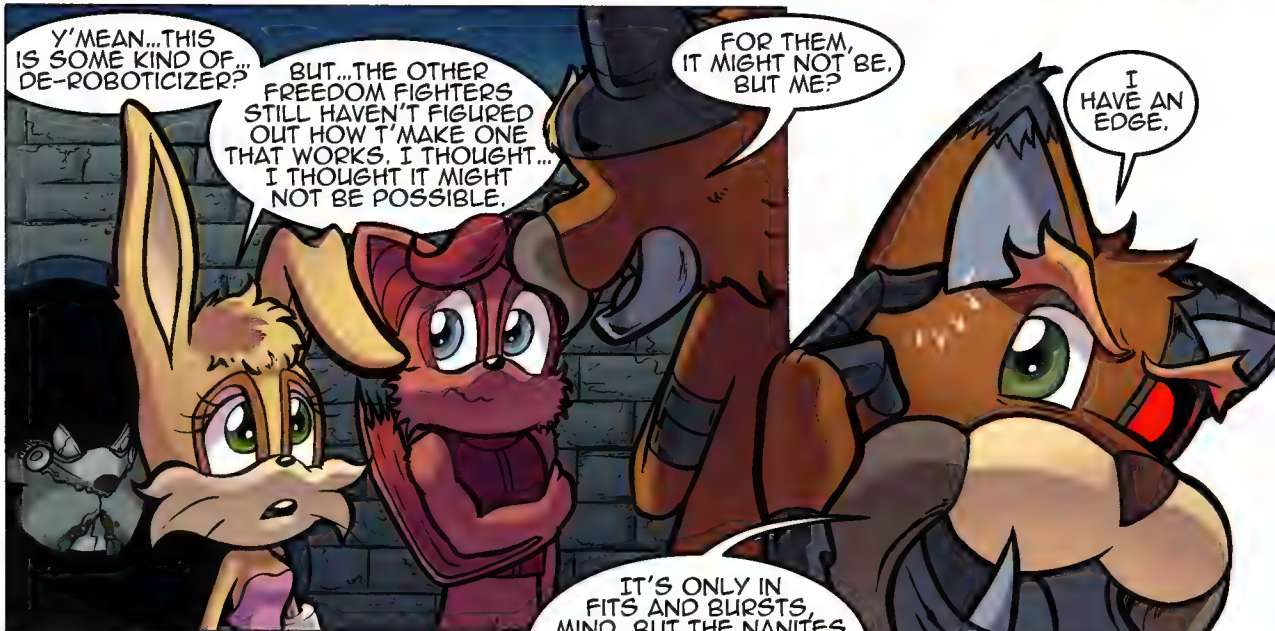
NOT
WHEN I'M SO
CLOSE.

OH MY
STARS....





Y'LIKE IT?
I CALL IT THE
ZERO UNIT. I
COULDN'T RISK
GOING BACK TO
KNOTHOLE IN
MY...CONDITION
...SO I HAD TO
START PIECING
TOGETHER A
WAY TO GET
MYSELF BACK
T'NORMAL.



Y'MEAN...THIS
IS SOME KIND OF...
DE-ROBOTICIZER?

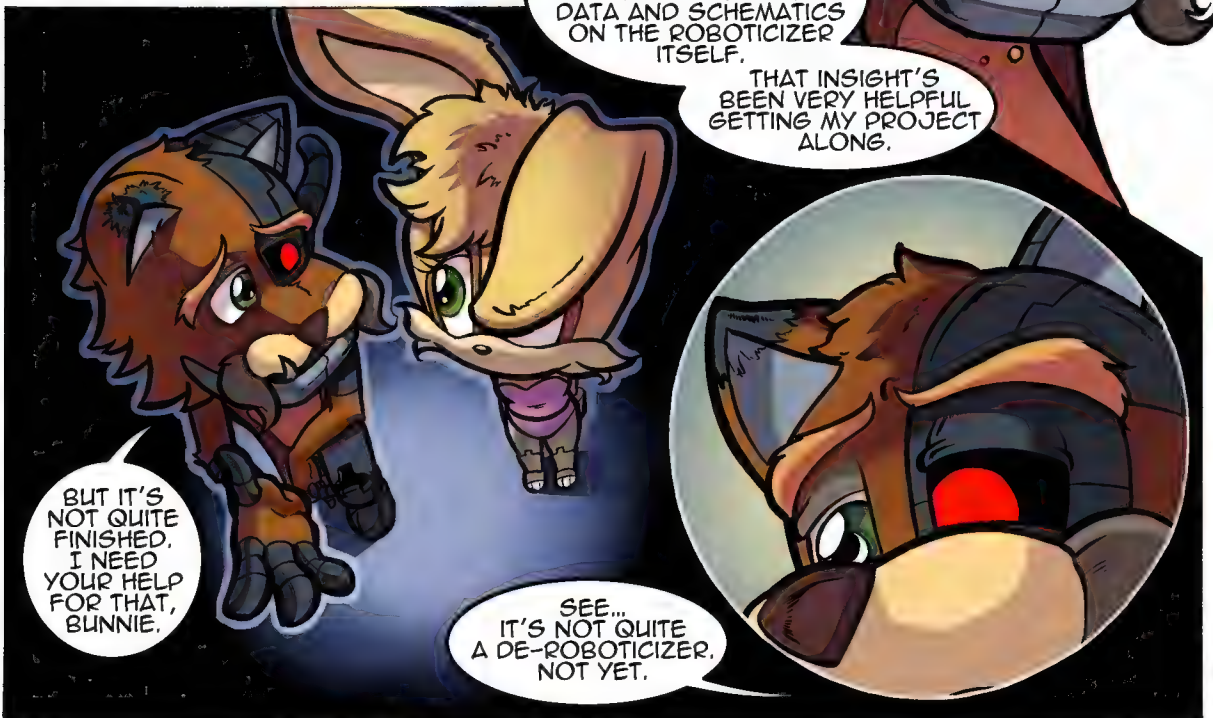
BUT...THE OTHER
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED
OUT HOW T'MAKE ONE
THAT WORKS. I THOUGHT...
I THOUGHT IT MIGHT
NOT BE POSSIBLE.

FOR THEM,
IT MIGHT NOT BE.
BUT ME?

I
HAVE AN
EDGE.

IT'S ONLY IN
FITS AND BURSTS,
MIND, BUT THE NANITES
LET ME SEE INTRICATE
DATA AND SCHEMATICS
ON THE ROBOTICIZER
ITSELF.

THAT INSIGHT'S
BEEN VERY HELPFUL
GETTING MY PROJECT
ALONG.



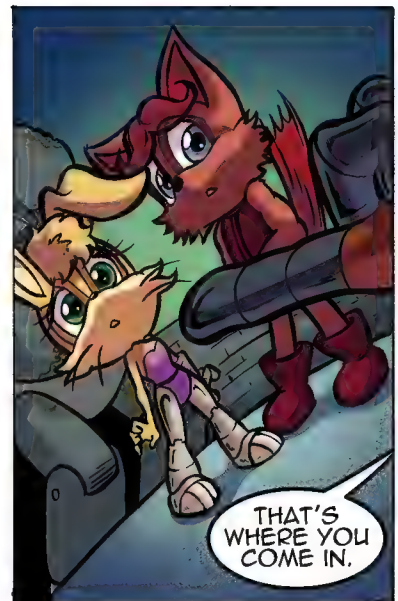
BUT IT'S
NOT QUITE
FINISHED.
I NEED
YOUR HELP
FOR THAT,
BUNNIE.

SEE...
IT'S NOT QUITE
A DE-ROBOTICIZER.
NOT YET.

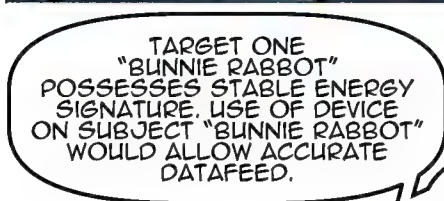


RIGHT NOW,
IT'S ONLY ABLE
TO ANALYZE THE UNIQUE
ENERGY SIGNATURE CREATED
BY THE ROBOTICIZER. THE
ENERGY THAT ANIMATES
THE NANITES.

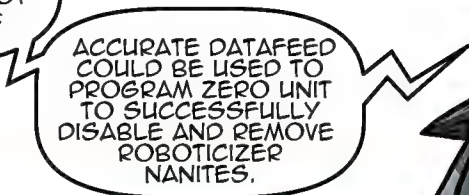
UNFORTUNATELY,
THAT'S AS FAR AS
I'VE BEEN ABLE TO GO
SO FAR. MY SIGNATURE'S
JUST TOO UNSTABLE
TO GIVE ME THE
DATA I NEED.



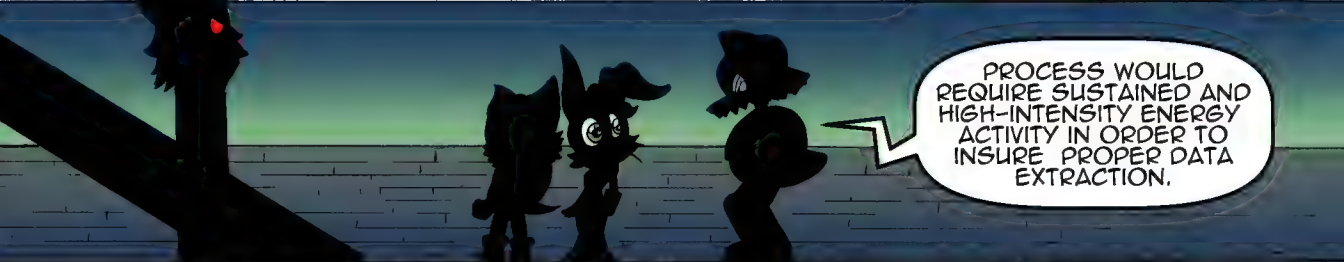
THAT'S
WHERE YOU
COME IN.



TARGET ONE
"BUNNIE RABBIT"
POSSESSES STABLE ENERGY
SIGNATURE. USE OF DEVICE
ON SUBJECT "BUNNIE RABBIT"
WOULD ALLOW ACCURATE
DATAFEED.



ACCURATE DATAFEED
COULD BE USED TO
PROGRAM ZERO UNIT
TO SUCCESSFULLY
DISABLE AND REMOVE
ROBOTICIZER
NANITES.

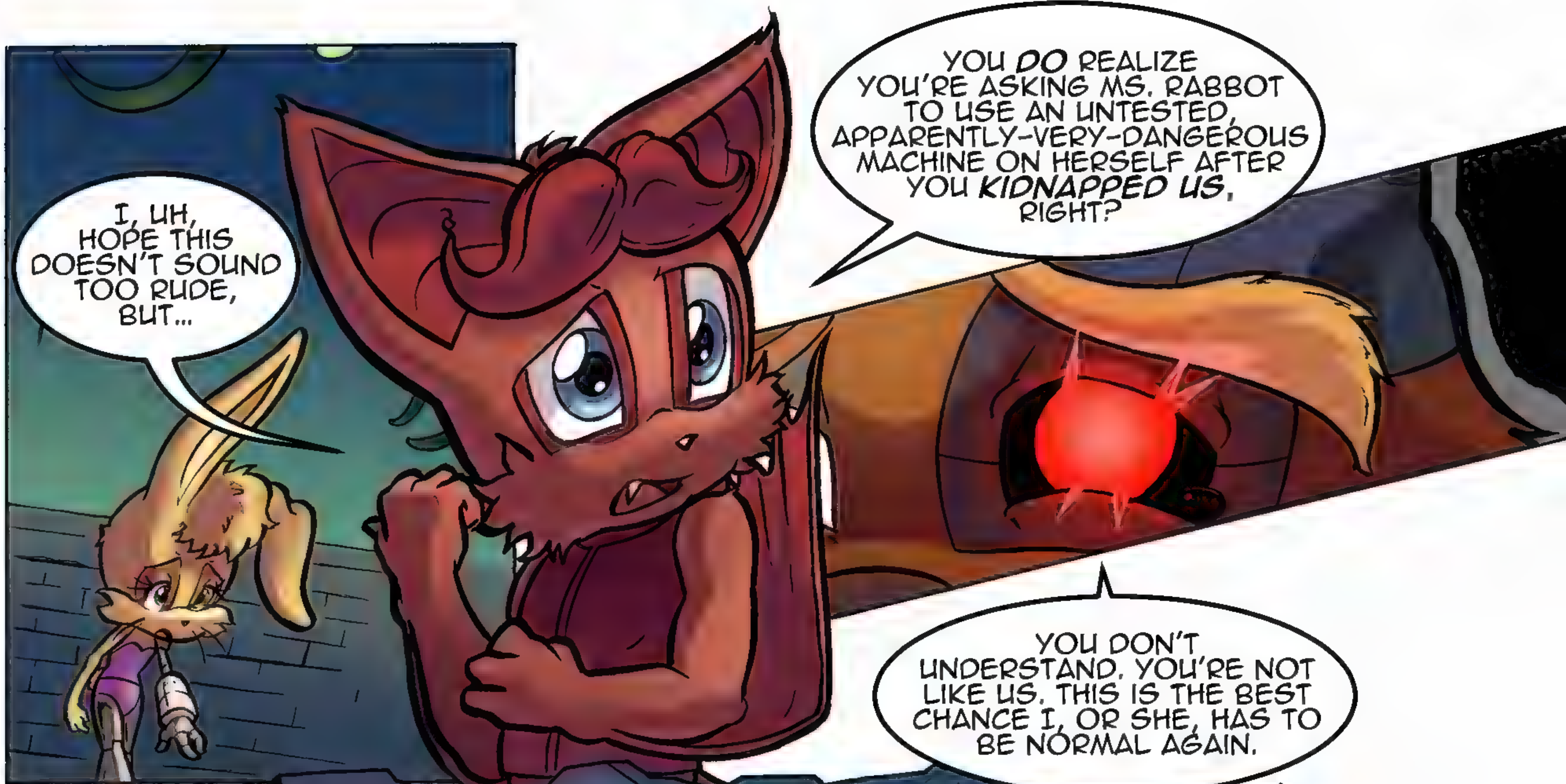


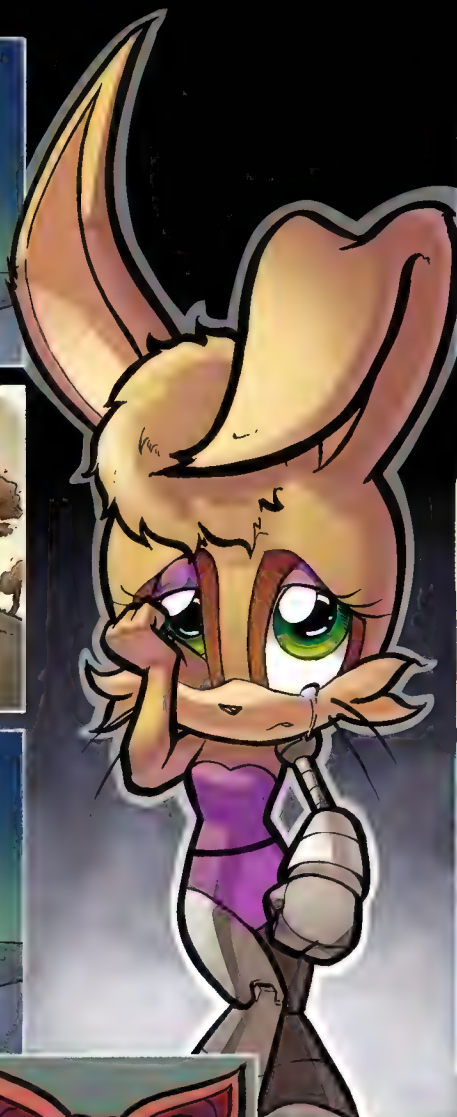
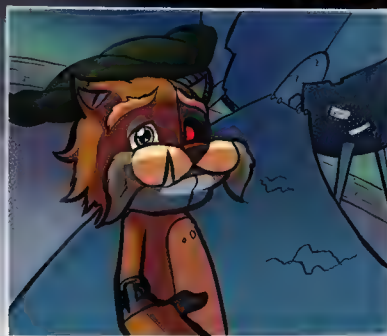
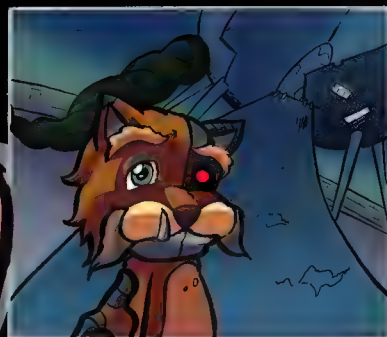
PROCESS WOULD
REQUIRE SUSTAINED AND
HIGH-INTENSITY ENERGY
ACTIVITY IN ORDER TO
INSURE PROPER DATA
EXTRACTION.



...IT'S NOT A...
PLEASANT
EXPERIENCE.

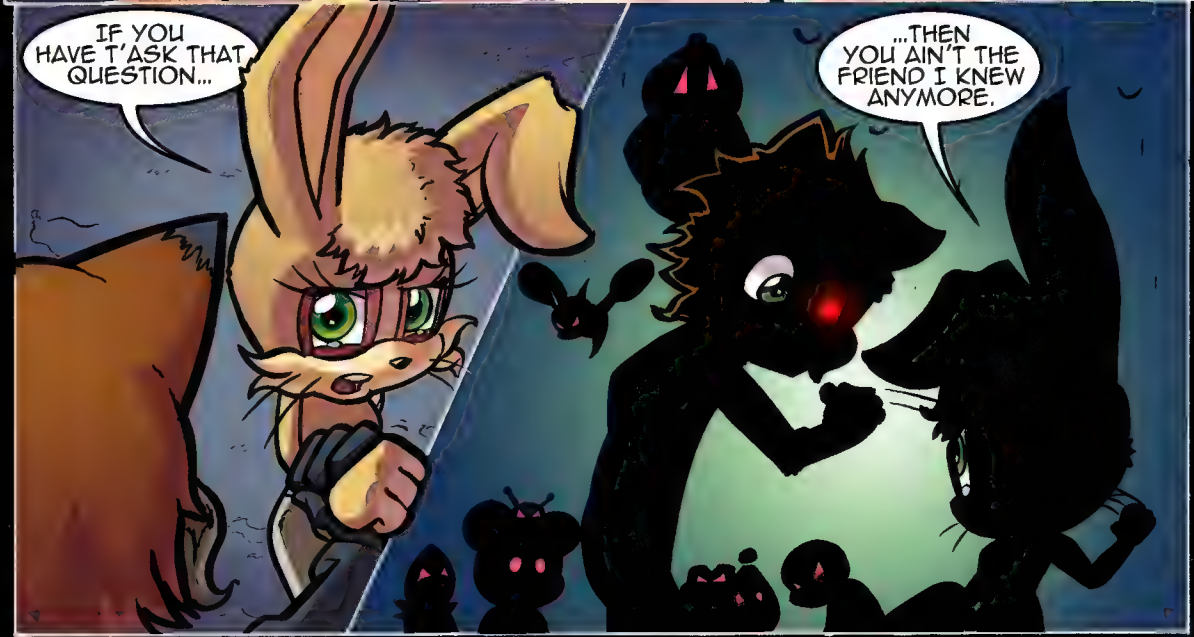
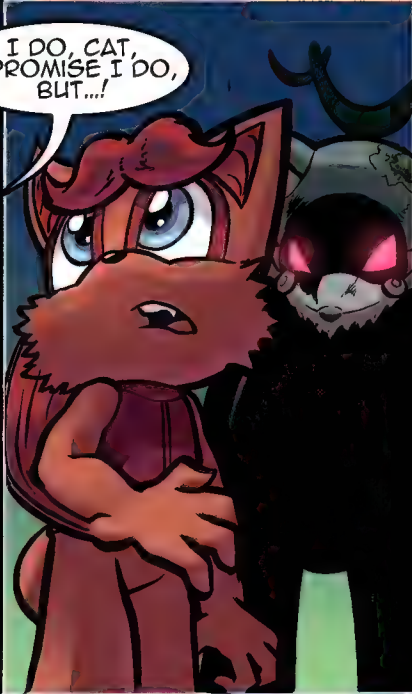




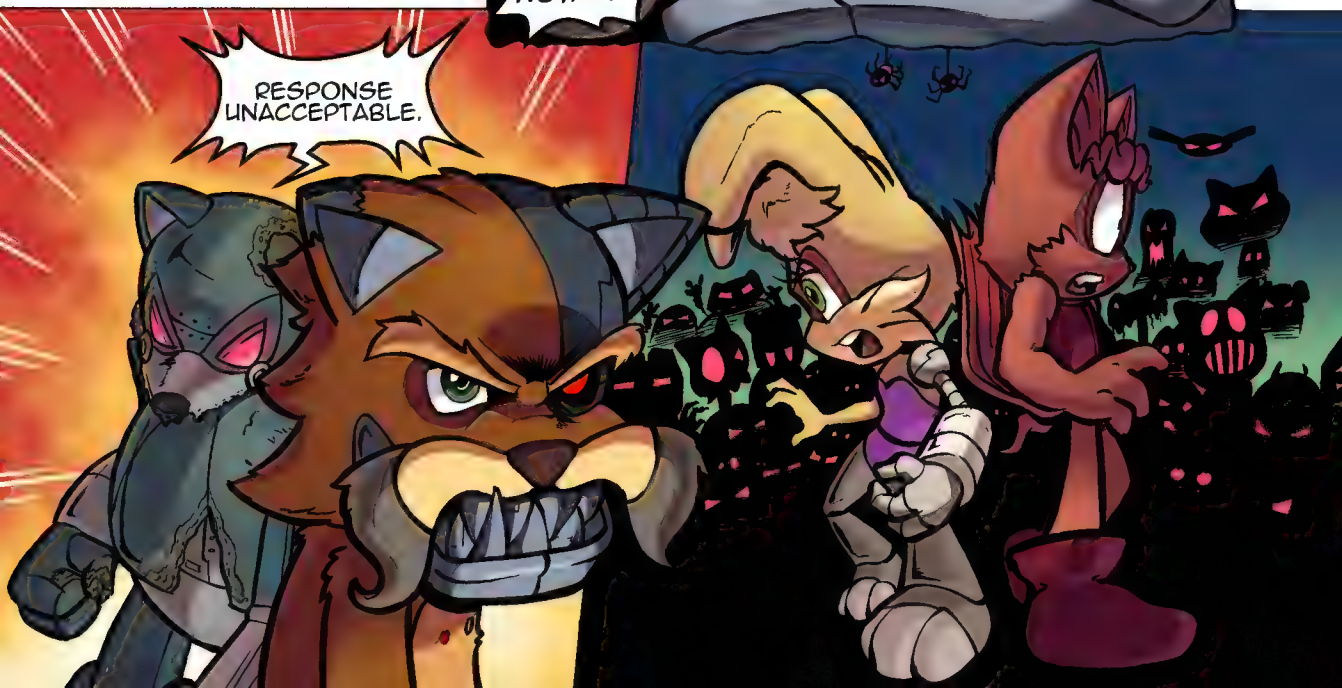


CAT...I....

...I CAN'T.



...THEN YOU AIN'T THE FRIEND I KNEW ANYMORE.





CAT...
IT DON'T GOTTA
BE LIKE THIS....

NEGATIVE.
SUBJECT
"BUNNIE RABBIT"
MUST SUBMIT.

GAVIN...
WHEN I SAY
SO...



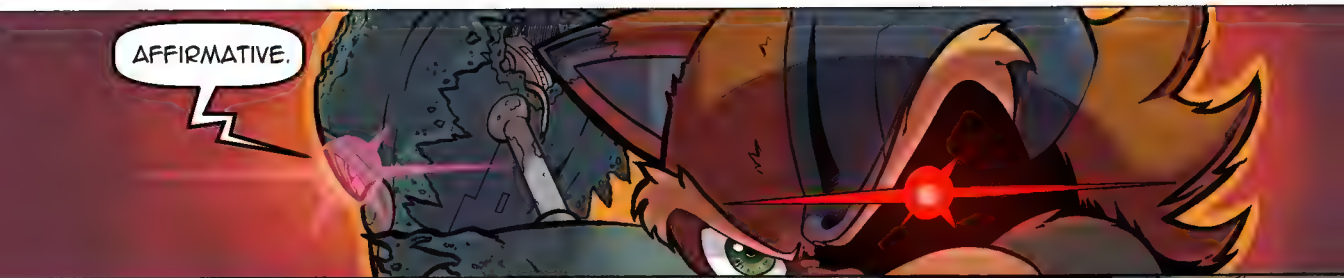
RUN!!!

THUD



GET UP!
GET UP, RUSTBUCKET,
WE HAVE T'CATCH
HER!

KILL THE
OTHER ONE IF
YOU HAVE TO, BUT
BRING BUNNIE BACK.
GET! UP!
NOW!



AFFIRMATIVE.



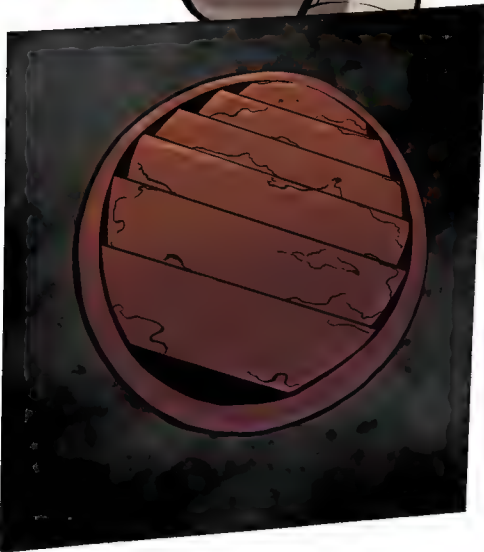
I THOUGHT YOU SAID THIS "CAT" WAS YOUR FRIEND?!

HE IS! I KNOW HE IS! THIS... THIS IS JUST...!

IT'S WHAT BEIN' ROBOTICIZED MADE HIM...!



WHAT-EVER THE CASE, WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE!



AGREED.

CLANG!!



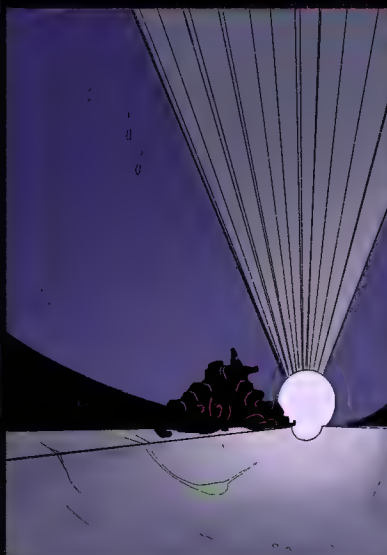
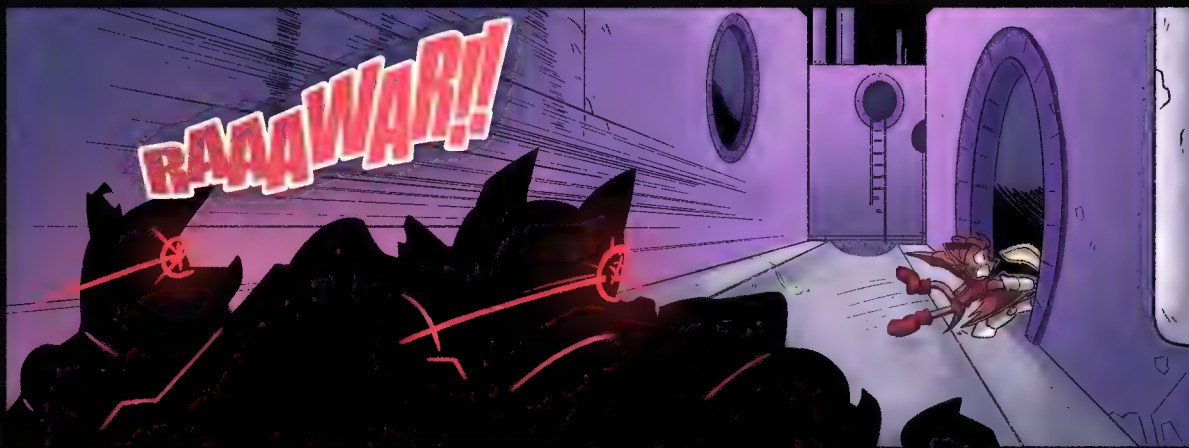
YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW TO GET TO KNOTHOLE FROM HERE...?

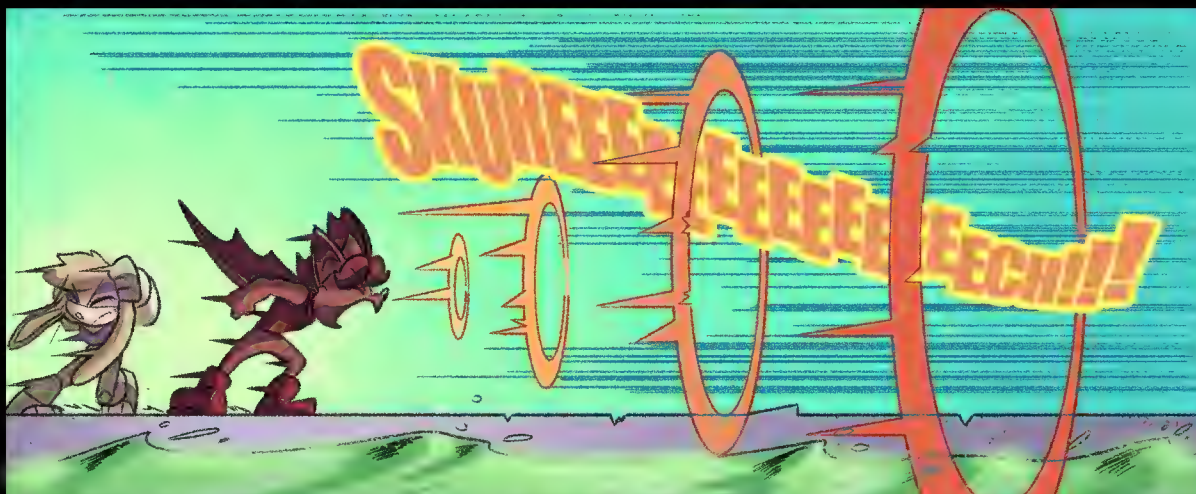
I...DON'T SUPPOSE

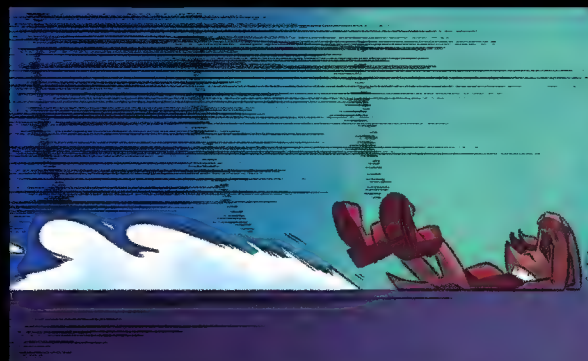
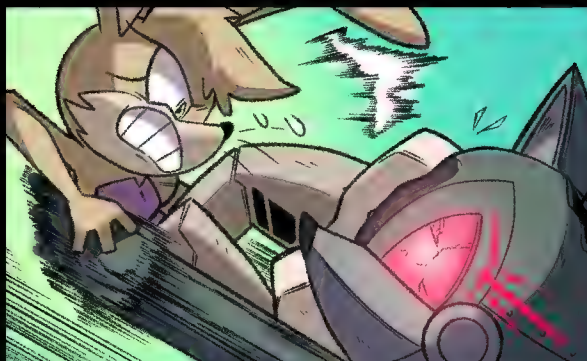


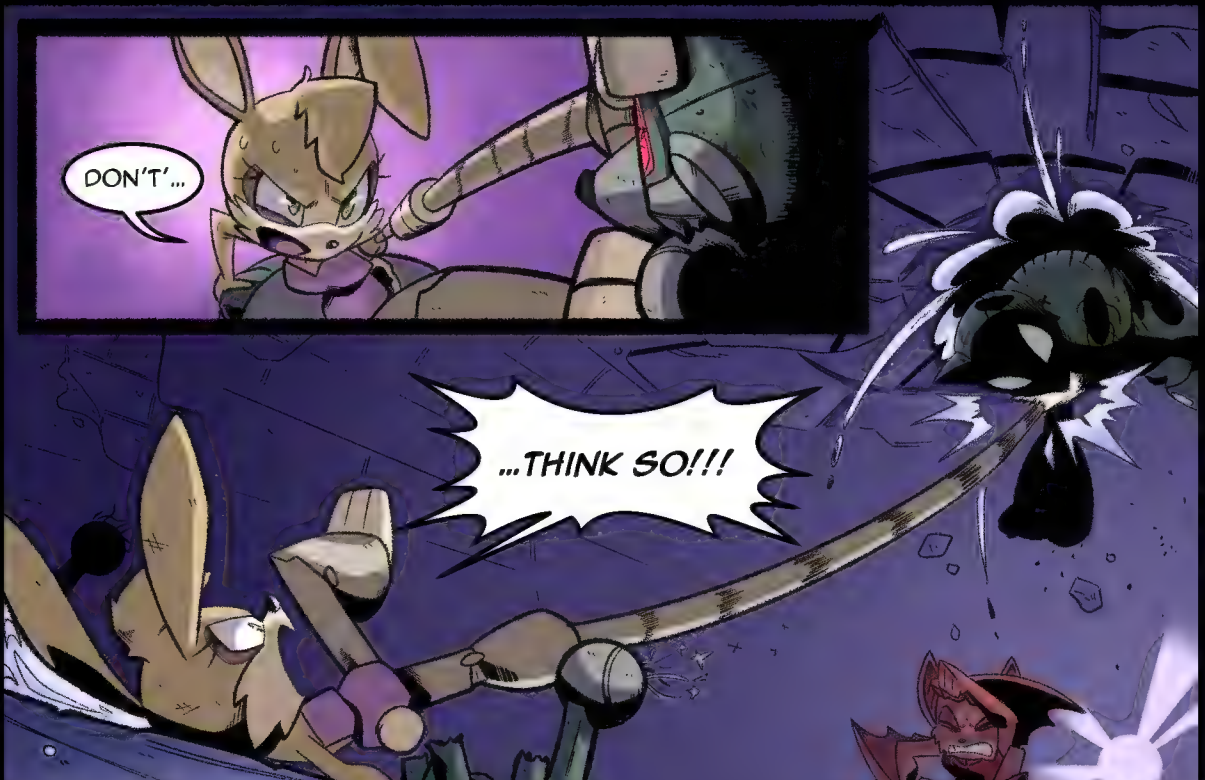
NOPE.

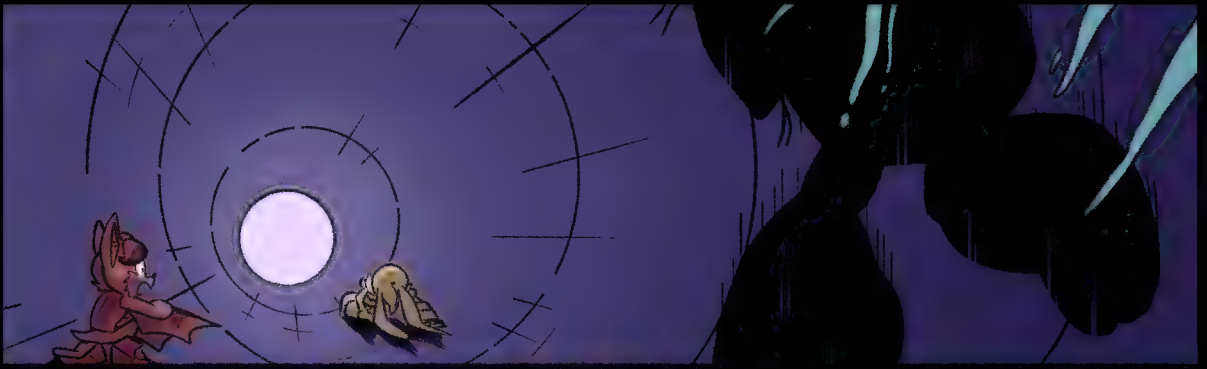














AH...!
I THINK
WE'RE ALMOST
THERE.



G-GOOD...
NOW
T'MAKE
SURE...



...WE AIN'T
GOT ANY MORE
COMPANY!



OPTIC UNIT
DAMAGED. VISUALS
COMPROMISED.

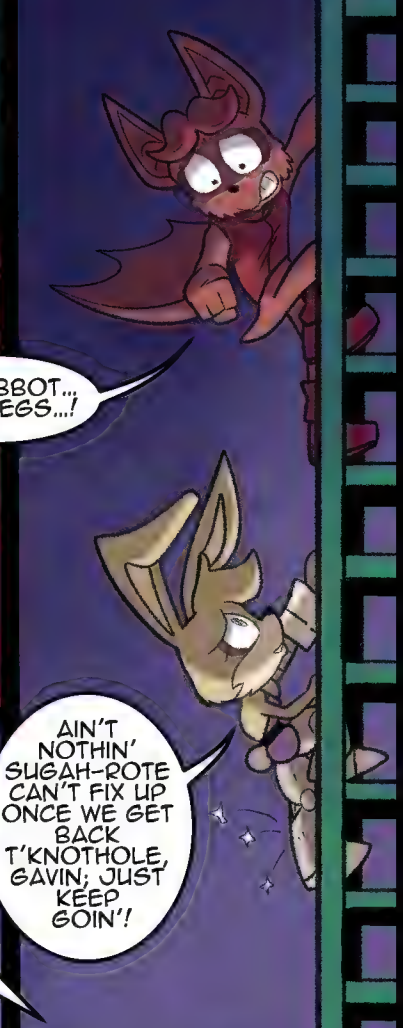


MS. RABBIT...
YOUR LEGS...!

SHRA-K!

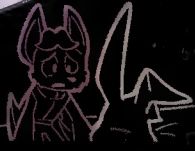


COMPENSATING...
COMPENSATING....

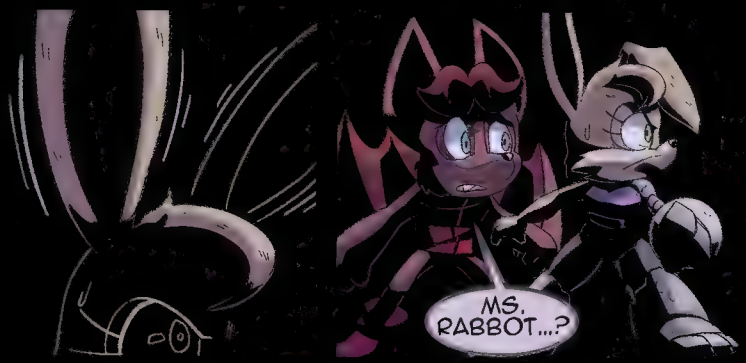


AIN'T
NOTHIN'
SUGAH-ROTE
CAN'T FIX UP
ONCE WE GET
BACK
T'KNOTHOLE,
GAVIN; JUST
KEEP
GOIN'!

I THINK WE'RE
GETTING CLOSE...
IT FELT LIKE THERE WAS
SOME KIND OF EXIT OR
DOOR ON THE OTHER
END OF THIS TUNNEL
HERE.



HOPEFULLY
IT TAKES US
TOP-SIDE.



MS.
RABBOT...?

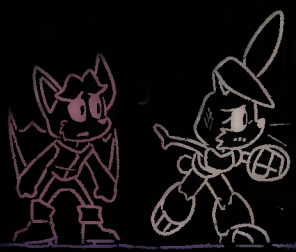


BUNNIE

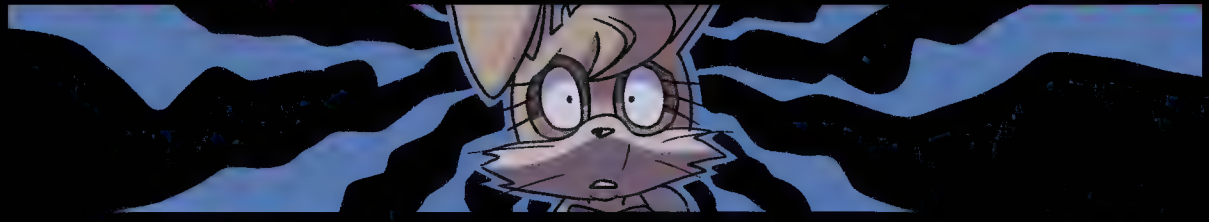


**I CAN'T
LET YA GO**

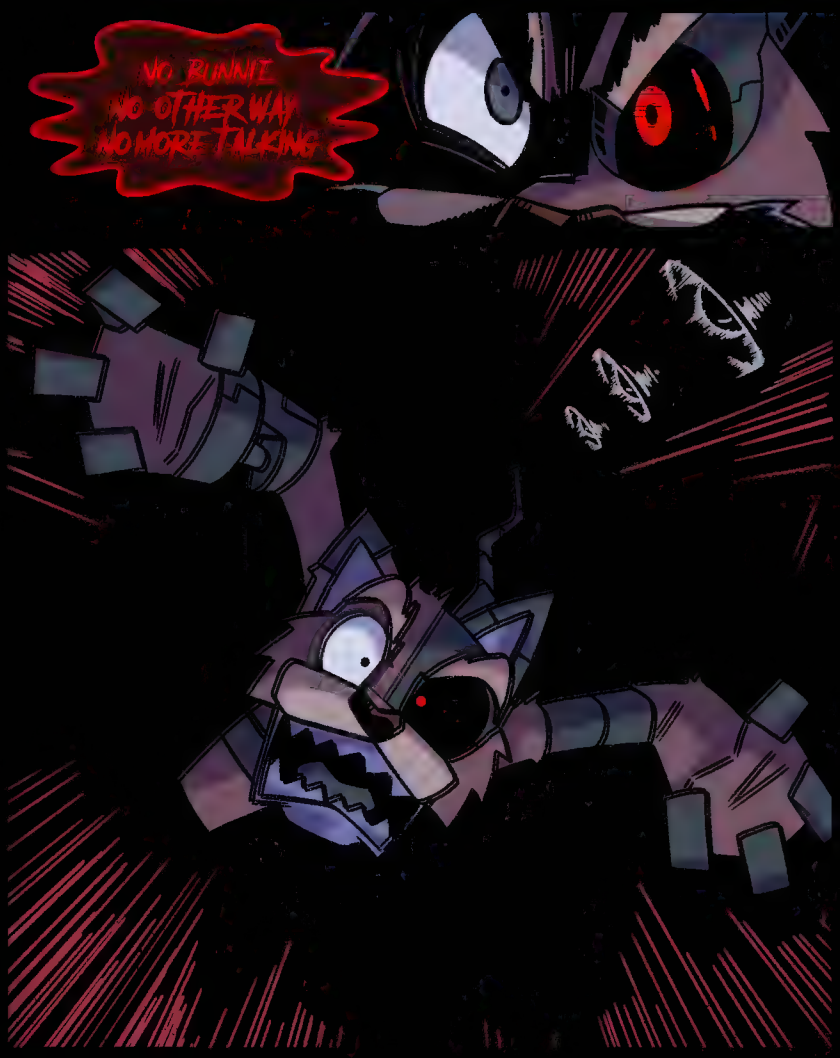
YES
Y'CAN, CAT.
WE CAN HELP YA,
I PROMISE,
WE JUST NEED
T'FIND ANOTHER
WAY...

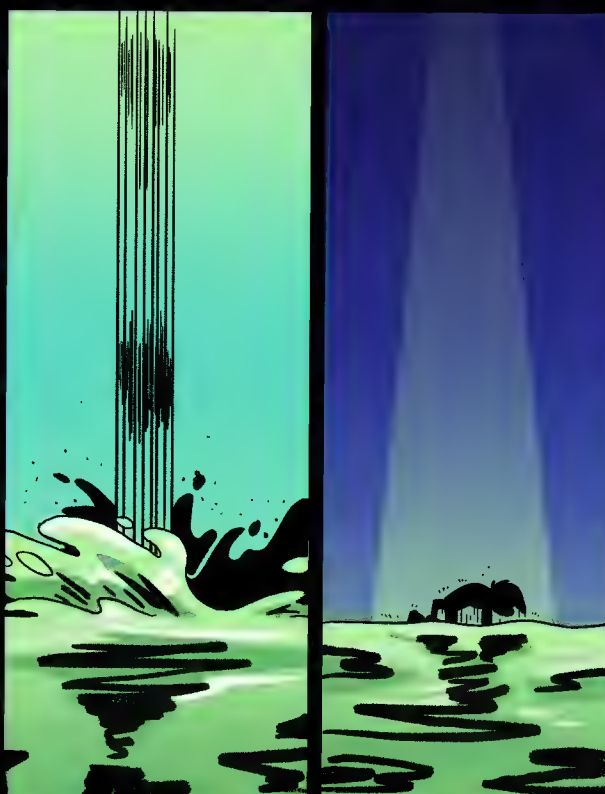
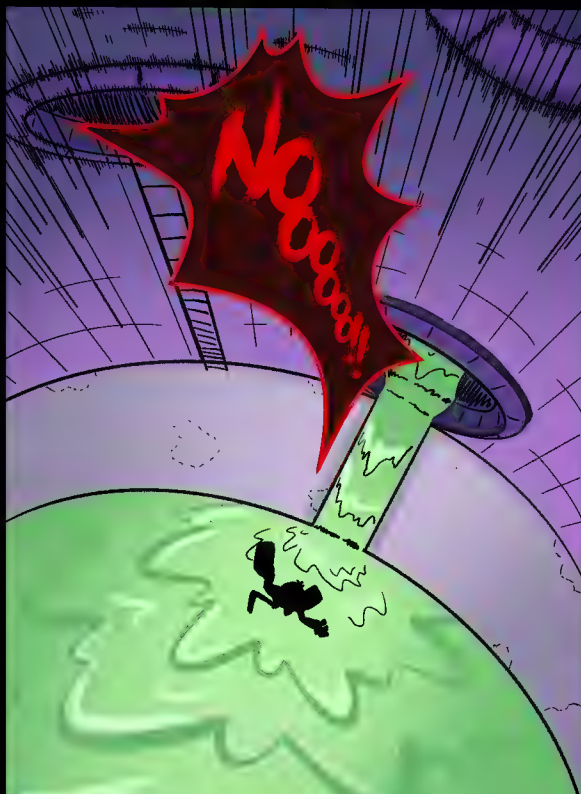
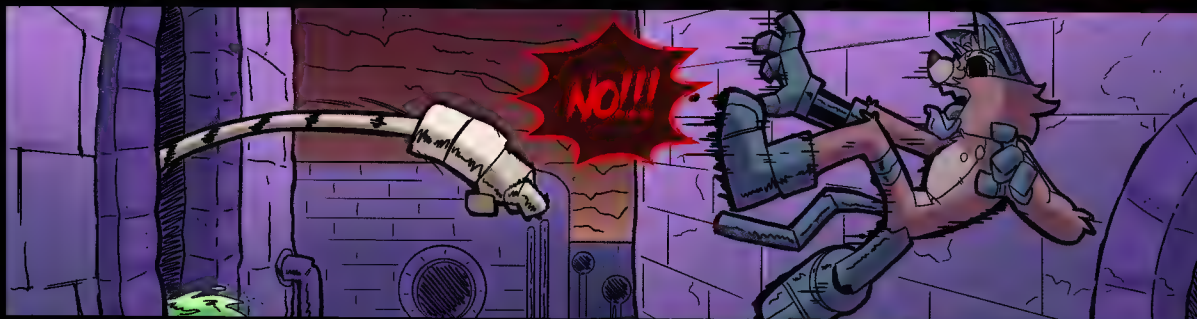
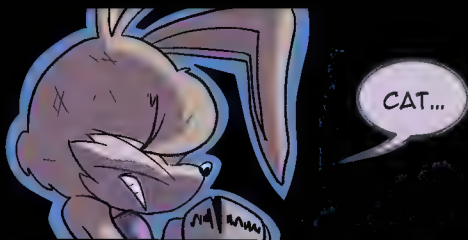


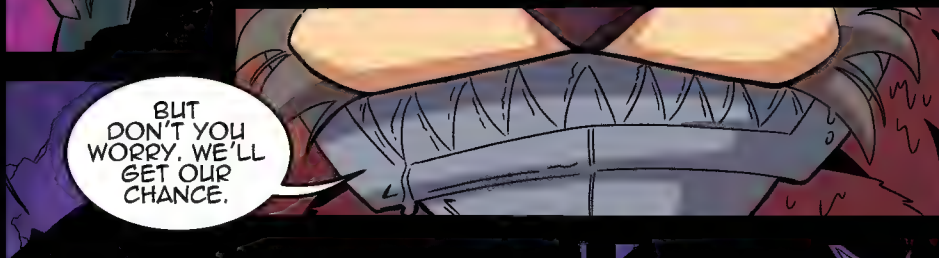
ANOTHER WAY
I MEAN LIKE
HOW YOUR FRIENDS
CURED YOU?

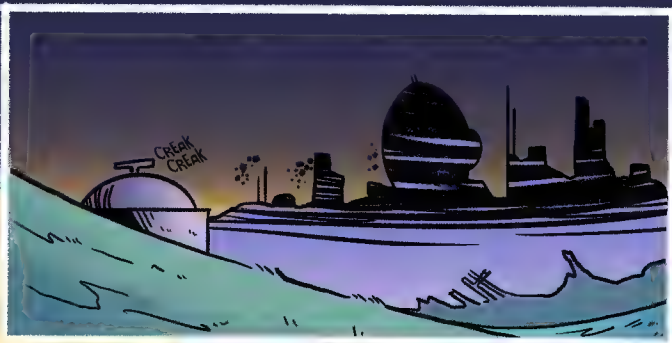


NO RUNNIE
NO OTHER WAY
NO MORE TALKING



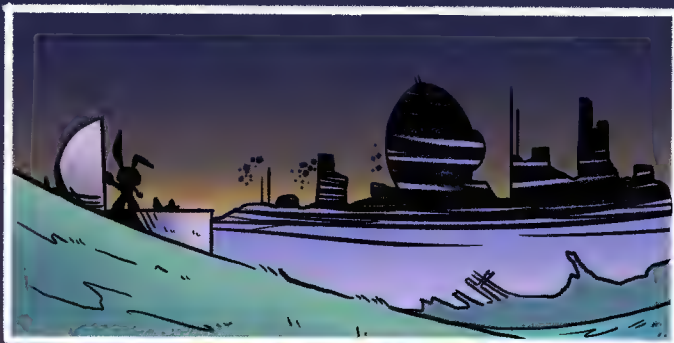






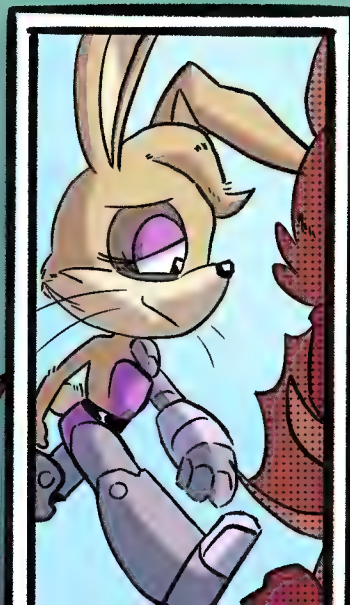
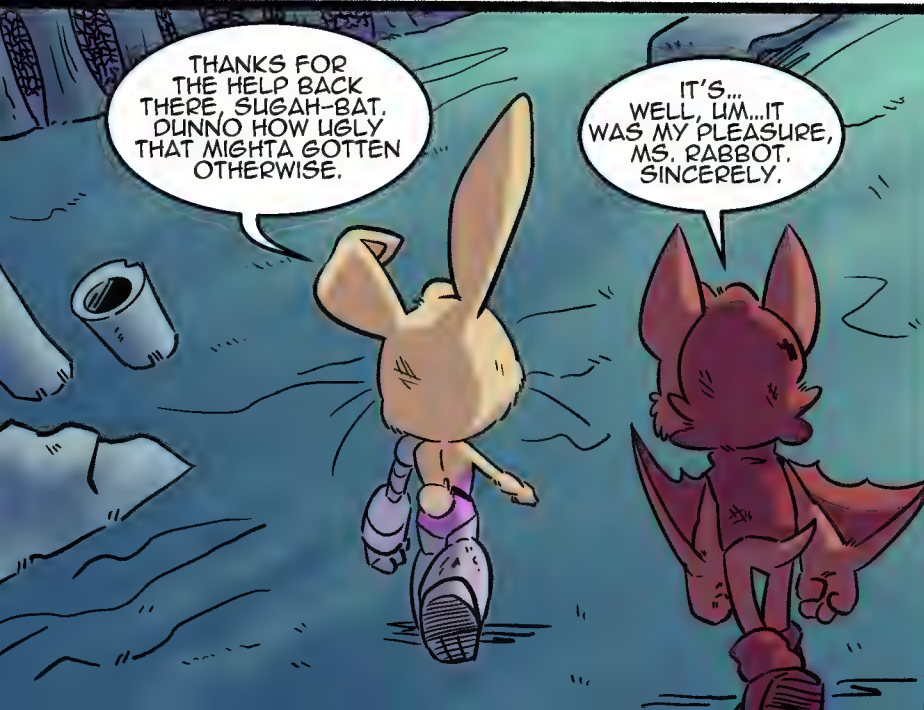
OH THANK GOODNESS...WE MADE IT! WITH LUCK, THOSE ROBOTS WON'T RISK BEING DISCOVERED BY FOLLOWING US UP HERE, BUT WE SHOULD PROBABLY GET GOING ANYWAY.

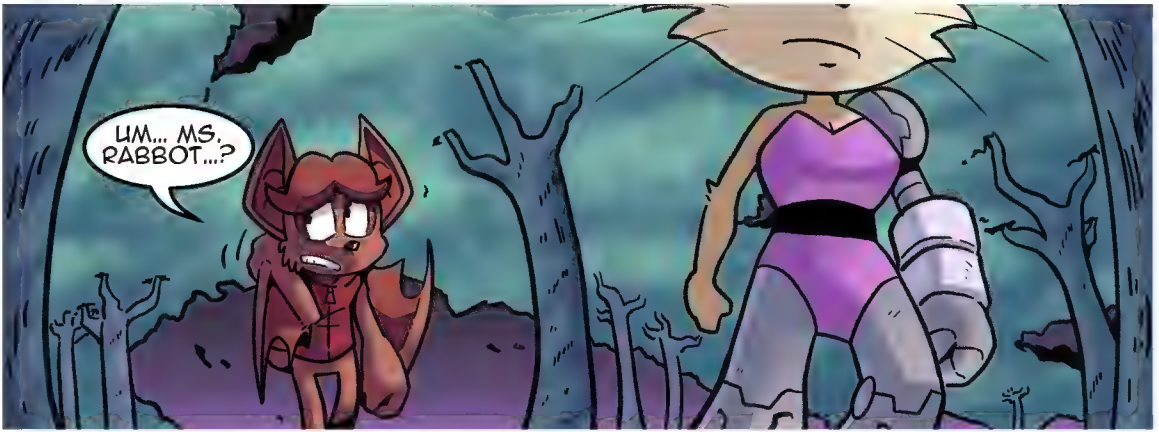
LIKE, RIGHT NOW.



THANKS FOR THE HELP BACK THERE, SUGAR-BAT. DUNNO HOW UGLY THAT MIGHTA GOTTEN OTHERWISE.

IT'S... WELL, UM...IT WAS MY PLEASURE, MS. RABBIT. SINCERELY.







...I WASN'T
SCARED O'
THE RISK. I
WAS SCARED
IT'D *WORK*.



USED T'BE,
I'D GIVE *ANYTHING*...
DO ANYTHING...JUST
T'HAVE MY OWN BODY
BACK, BUT...

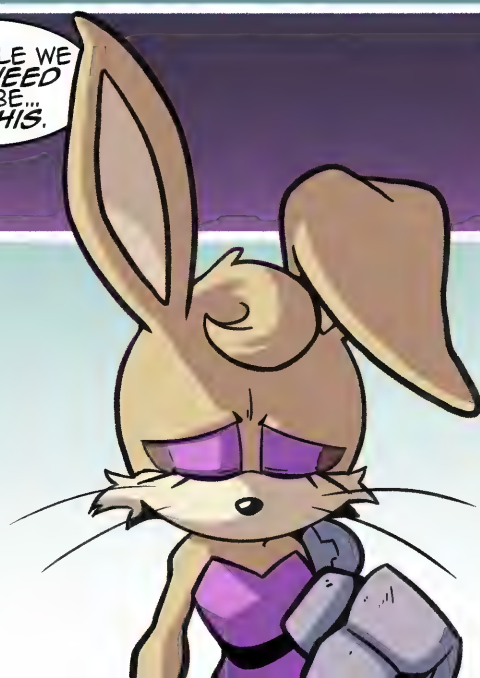


WITH SNIVELY N'
NAUGUS RUNNIN' AROUND,
N' CHAOS EMERALDS N'
GUARDIANS N' ALL SORTS
O' NEW BAD STUFF ROLLIN'
ON TOP OF US....

...IT'S MADE
ME REALIZE...I
CAN'T GO BACK
T'NORMAL.
NOT YET.



NOT WHILE WE
STILL *NEED*
ME T'BE...
LIKE *THIS*.





NOW C'MON,
SUGAH-BAT...
WE CAN'T STAND
'ROUND HERE
'MOPIN' ALL
NIGHT LONG.

WE'VE
GOT A LOT
T'REPORT, 'N'
LIKE YA SAID,
WE GOTTA KEEP
MOVIN'.

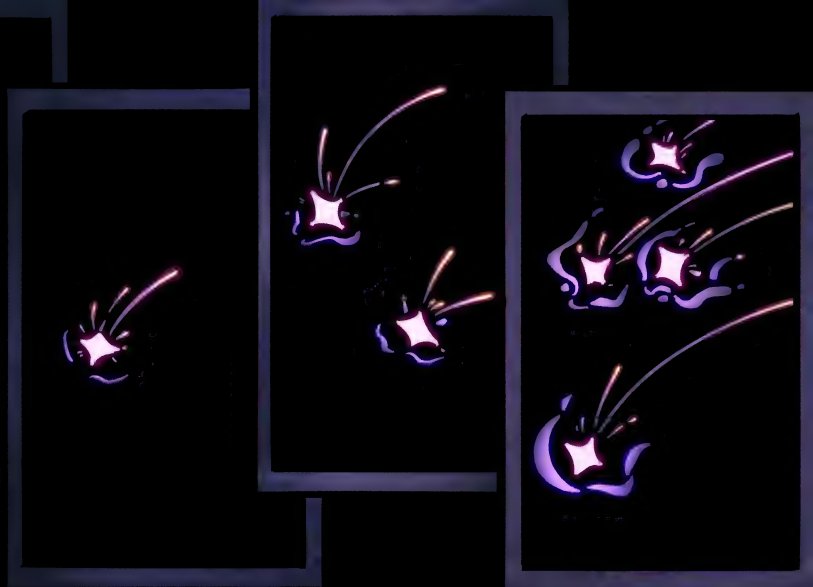


WE
KEEP MOVIN'
FORWARD.

...RIGHT.



THE END







BLAST IT ALL!

"WHY IS MY TRACKING SPELL ENCOUNTERING SUCH DIFFICULTY?"

"IT WAS EASY TO HUNT THE WIND CRYSTAL DOWN TO MADARA CITY, BUT EVER SINCE OUR FIGHT WITH THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS THERE, I'VE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND IT AGAIN, NOR ANY OF THE OTHER CHAOS EMERALDS!"



"THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON HERE... SOMETHING I CANNOT YET RECOGNIZE. STILL, THERE IS NO MYSTERY I CANNOT SOLVE IF I HAVE THE RIGHT..."



PRIORITY ONE, HEDGEHOG ALERT!
FREEDOM FIGHTERS SPOTTED IN SECTOR D369-S!
PRIORITY ONE, HEDGEHOG ALERT!

...OPPORTUNITY.





